

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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RATTENBACH REPORT CRITICIZES LACK OF PLANNING

PY300155 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0050 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (NA) -- The Inter-force Commission, which investigated responsibility for the Malvinas war, concluded that "the opportunity gratuitously chosen by the military junta for the recovery of the South Atlantic archipelago benefitted, most of all, the enemy."

The second part of the Rattanbach Report on the South Atlantic war, published tonight by the news magazine SIETE DIAS, reveals that, until the moment of the occupation of the islands, on the 2 April 1982, "no concrete plan existed for the defense of the islands in case Great Britain decided to reoccupy them by force." After harshly criticizing those who were militarily and politically responsible for the conduct of the war, the report notes that "the errors and oversights can be useful only if our failures are brought to light."

The lack of "good preparation for joint action" compounded with "the disregard for the doctrine of joint action" is repeatedly stressed in the report as one of the main causes of the military defeat. At a more general level, it is expressly noted that "the country's general situation at the time the decision was made to occupy the Malvinas Islands was not the most appropriate to cope with the international political consequences of such an operation." In that regard, "the rampant socio-economic crisis in a country burdened with serious problems" is especially stressed.

The problems of the external situation are also pointed out, considering that at the time "the nation's authorities were under strong attack, particularly over the human rights problems." The report then recounts the arms sales embargo applied to Argentina by the United States, and the unfavorable circumstances prevailing in the relations with the Third World and nonaligned countries.

Criticizing the decision to advance the date for the occupation of the islands, the Inter-force Commission contends that "had the operation been launched at a later date, the British Royal Navy would have been unable to commit a substantial part of its surface fleet." It is likewise noted that "the worst part of the year for climate conditions was selected, because our own troops were not properly equipped or trained to withstand a prolonged seige on the islands."

The report points out that "the procedure which the junta adopted to prepare the nation for war was at odds with the most elementary rules of planning of the Armed Forces, and of the national planning system." In that regard, the report adds that "as a consequence, fundamental errors were committed regarding the political as well as the military-strategic conduct of the conflict both at the beginning, and at the end."

It then notes that "had those errors not been committed, the course of the war could have been different, and the political objective sought could have been attained in a different way."

In the item C of point 167, the commission's report further charges that "this defense plan, established in the schematic plan of the operations theater, was issued on 12 April, that is, 10 days after the occupation of the islands, adding that Great Britain began the operations to retake the islands even before Argentina had decided how to defend them.

Emphasizing its criticisms, the Inter-force Commission mentions the creation of a so-called Working Commission (CT), composed of General Osvaldo Garcia, Vice Admiral Juan Jose Lombardo, and Brigadier Major Sigfrido Plessl, "who, bound by instructions to maintain maximum secrecy, carried out their task practically without assistance, going so far as writing out documents themselves in longhand."

The report notes that neither the chiefs of staff nor the foreign minister were aware that the CT was created on 12 January 1982 for the purpose of "planning the seizure of the Malvinas Islands." The commission maintains that "this decision is almost unprecedented from the viewpoint of planning," and that "the normal thing to do would have been to ask the joint staff to undertake the task, because that is its specific mission."

The report notes that the secrecy that surrounded the working group prevented its members from "consulting with other state agencies on the information that the group must have regarded as essential." "That information," the report goes on, "was available at the Planning Secretariat, since a hypothetical war against Great Britain has been considered in the document known as National Strategic Intelligence Plan." After reporting the existence of other classified reports on the same subject, the commission remarks that "neither the military junta members, the CT group members, nor the cabinet members were aware of the existence of the above documents."

Despite the attempt to surround the group's work with a veil of secrecy, the report reveals that in December 1981, Admiral Jorge Anaya, then Navy commander in chief, ordered Lombardo to analyze the possibility of invading the Malvinas, instructing him "to supply the information to his subordinate admirals only." The approval of the documents drawn up by each force was affected by "the urgency brought about by the events in the Georgias," so that "the document had to be given full approval right after it was partially approved."

Analyzing another aspect of the war, the Rattenbach Commission cites four "major" factors which made the junta reconsider the original decision to evacuate the archipelago after the 2 April invasion. According to the commission, such factors were Resolution No 502 passed by the UN Security Council, the British reaction, "which was the opposite to what was expected," and "the facilities that the United States gave to Great Britain for the utilization of the military base on Ascension Island."

"Also," the report goes on, "the emotional reaction of the people throughout the country made the government feel that its actions were being strongly supported. This led the president to assume public commitments to the people, an attitude that in the end meant the loss of the initially available negotiation margin."

The commission then reveals that "after the troops on the island had been substantially reinforced and provided with considerable military equipment, the junta's strategy centered on the possibility of reaching an agreement with the help of the United States, first through Secretary of State Haig and later through other negotiation attempts."

"This decision by the junta," the report notes, "was caused by the improper planning done before 2 April, which considered neither the possible reaction of the British Government nor other predictable consequences that could have been avoided or mitigated."

REJECTION OF ARCE GOMEZ EXTRADITION APPEALED

PY241727 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS In Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Nov (NA) -- Today Federal Prosecutor Daniel Piotti appealed the rejection of the extradition petition submitted by the U. S. courts for Luis Arce Gomez, former Bolivian interior minister. Piotti argues that Federal Judge Jose Nicasio Dibur rejected the extradition petition without taking into account all the evidence against Arce Gomez.

SALVADORAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES TO DISCUSS ARMS

PY291305 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1528 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 26 Nov (EFE) -- Salvadoran Vice President Mauricio Albergó is in Argentina to discuss with the Argentine military government the delivery of weapons purchased by El Salvador some time ago. This information has come from reliable Argentine Government sources, who added that Albergó will hold a press conference in the next few days to explain the Salvadoran situation resulting from a 4-year civil war. Albergó was invited by the Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI), an organization made up of former Foreign Ministry officials.

PERUVIAN ARMY CHIEF BRICENO ZEVALLOS ARRIVES

PY251920 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1509 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Nov (TELAM) -- Peruvian Army Commander in Chief Major General Carlos Antonio Briceno Zevallos today arrived in Argentina, specially invited by his Argentine counterpart. The prominent visitor came to deliver a diploma and a sword to his son, who will graduate tomorrow as a third lieutenant from the Argentine Military College, which is located in Palomar and to hold meetings with Argentine military leaders.

Maj Gen Briceno Zevallos' plane landed at the military section of Buenos Aires Metropolitan Airport. He was met there by the Army Chief of Staff Major General Edgardo Nestor Calvi, along with other Argentine and Peruvian officials. Maj Gen Briceno then went to the Libertador building, where the Army headquarters are located, and he greeted Army Commander in Chief Lieutenant General Cristino Nicolaides.

FUTURE INTERIOR MINISTER TROCCOLI COMMENTS

PY291920 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1036 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 26 Nov (DYN) -- Interior Minister-designate Antonio Troccoli has admitted the possibility that there may be attempts to destabilize the future democratic government but he noted that he is confident that "the experience of the Argentine people," will spare them from this. He also added that there is "a connection" between terrorism and drug trafficking.

In this regard, he said that "security organizations must be reorganized" and that "the word repression must be banished. It should be replaced by the word prevention. We must improve the capacity and operating conditions of security forces so that they may serve the law and the courts."

About destabilization plans which future UCR [Radical Civic Union] government officials have charged will be carried out before the next government takes office on 10 December, Troccoli noted that he is "naturally" concerned over the issue. He added: "I have always believed that the national political reconstruction process was not going to be an easy task. There will be many stumbling blocks that we shall have to overcome, because we will hinder the interests of many sectors ranging from the ideological interests of the left to the economic interests of the right." Troccoli noted that both sectors will unite themselves to "undermine, block, and even destabilize the government."

He noted, however, that "to confront the plans of these small minorities that are very powerful in view of the interests they handle, there is a nation, over 90 percent of the Argentine public, that voted for a new path, a nation that has gained experience and that has learned from this experience." Therefore, he said that "in addition to our logical concerns, our main concern should be the installation of the government, the reinforcement of ethical values, to put the institutions in operation and to be efficient," since "if we solve the problems that the country is experiencing, if we issue the proper socioeconomic emergency measures, if the system works properly, there will be a complex and sophisticated scheme that will block any destabilizing attempts from consolidating or taking shape."

The interior minister-designate said: "I am certain that the future will bring stability to Argentina." Troccoli noted that Argentine social and political organizations "will not be deceived, will not be led by the nose to a confrontation or to allow for the deterioration of the situation." He added that the issues will be debated "since the country needs it," and he noted that as a result of this, "there will be strong and harsh arguments but no one will take things to an extreme, no one will try to destabilize the system since we have learned from our experiences."

He noted that these sectors "were many times misguided by the sirens' songs about the alleged effectiveness of authoritarian governments, about the alleged virtues of a government that better understands the interests of a given sector. But experience has shown us that those who came to improve the situation, to eradicate corruption, gave rise to the worst corruption in the history of Argentina."

Troccoli said that "those who assumed power to achieve the economic recovery of the country submerged it into an unprecedented crisis; those who said they would improve the country's international prestige have doomed it beside the place of bloodthirsty dictatorships." He stated: "All this is fresh in the memories of all Argentines and if there is something that must be taken into account, it is the participation and the mobilization of Argentine citizens during the election campaign and the election itself."

Asked whether it is possible "to repress violence in keeping with the law," Troccoli answered affirmatively and added that "it is the only method that can be applied." In this regard he noted that "in addition to the fact that the aberrant, repressive methods used by the military regime have produced a bloodbath in the country, we now have to live with the anguish of missing persons and of those mothers who are seeking information on the whereabouts of their children."

He said that "we shall keep our commitment with the Argentine people," and added that "if we must resort to repressive measures, they will be implemented in keeping with the law. Security forces will be basically involved in preventing violence since we cannot reject the possibility that there will be violent incidents."

He noted that "the day in which we cease to follow this path means that we are resorting to methods that are not only contrary to democratic and republican principles but also to basic social ethics." Troccoli added that "we shall have a highly trained and effective police corps that will guard, protect, and will be able to act against terrorism and subversion, which are backed by a lot of money and which resort to highly sophisticated methods."

About the amnesty law, Troccoli said that the government will repeal it on the grounds that it is "unconstitutional." He added: "We have the law on our side in this, and high-ranking national and international experts agree with us in that this law could have never been enforced since it is not in keeping with the guidelines of the military regime and since an amnesty law cannot be issued to benefit the actions of the regime that issued the law."

About his plans to reduce the number of security services, Troccoli said that the first step "will be to demilitarize" these organizations because "there is no reason for them to be headed by military officers." Troccoli said: "If security forces at all levels are headed by police officers, this will enable them to be directly subordinated to the executive branch."

He noted that "there is a connection" between terrorism and drug trafficking. But he noted that "it is not known (whether) this is a business deal or a way to undermine society through the abnormalities that derive from drug consumption." But the future interior minister noted that "we have to be on the alert since these sinister organizations handle both, terrorism and drug trafficking, simultaneously. This is in addition to pornography."

Regarding rumors about the possible return of Montonero leaders as a result of the return of democracy in the country, Troccoli noted that "we return to a state of rights in which one is free and innocent until proven otherwise." He added that "anybody who is in the country or who wishes to return to the country may enter the country and move around freely in the country if he has no pending legal cases, if there is no arrest warrant for him, or if there are no court proceedings pending against him."

As for the political responsibilities regarding the missing persons issue, Troccoli said that Alfonsín's instructions are based on the fact that "the adoption of repressive methods would inexorably lead to the abuses that took place" since "the excesses that were committed were not by chance." Troccoli added that "it is the result of the method." Consequently, "those who adopted these methods, that is the commanders, the leaders, or at least the members of the Military Juntas at the time in which these repressive methods were implemented, are not merely politically responsible but fully responsible for the incidents that took place." He explained that "consequently we are not merely speaking of establishing political responsibilities but also of establishing responsibilities for the incidents that took place." He noted that "those who perpetrated crimes, those who went beyond their duties or orders, are in a different category. In these cases, the courts will have to study, judge, and punish these cases if needed."

SENATORS OF THREE PARTIES ELECTED TO LEADERSHIP

PY300125 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2107 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM) -- At 1550 [1850 GMT] today, the Senators elected a UCR [Radical Civic Union] member as provisional president, a Justicialist as first vice president, and an Autonomist from Corrientes as second vice president.

Edison Otero, senator of the UCR for the Buenos Aires Province, was elected provisional president; Ramon Adrian Araujo, senator of the Justicialist Party for Tucuman, was elected first vice president; and Ricardo Guillermo Laconte, senator of the Liberal Autonomist Pact for Corrientes, was elected as second vice president. The three were unanimously elected, following the motion of the legislators, making the nominal balloting called for by the Senate's regulations unnecessary.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ELECTS PUGLIESE PRESIDENT

PY291729 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1630 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM) -- Veteran Radical leader Juan Carlos Pugliese (Radical Civic Union [UCR], Buenos Aires) was unanimously elected president of the Chamber of Deputies today. Roberto Pascual Silva (UCR, Santa Fe) was elected first vice president, and Adam Pedrini (Justicialist Party, Chaco) second vice president. Pugliese's election took place at 1230 after he had been nominated for the Chamber presidency by Deputy Cesar Jaroslavsky (UCR, Entre Rios).

The blocs of the Intransigent Party, the Christian Democratic Party, and the Democratic Center Union specifically stated their support of Pugliese's nomination through their leaders Miguel Monserrat, Augusto Conte, and Alvaro Alsogaray, respectively. The preparatory session of the Chamber of Deputies ended at 1300.

PUGLIESE TO VISIT MADRID, MEET PRIME MINISTER

PY291829 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Dr Juan Carlos Pugliese, president of the Radical Civic Union [UCR] bloc in the Chamber of Deputies will leave for Madrid this afternoon. Dr Pugliese will participate in the meeting of Spanish and American congressional bloc presidents. Pugliese, who will carry out various activities in Spain, will be received in a special audience by Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez.

PHYSICIST WESTERKAMP SCORES NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY292330 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Nov 83 p 9

[Interview with nuclear physicist Jose Westerkamp by Luis Varela and Nestor Restivo, date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] How do you feel the Argentine public received the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) enriched-uranium announcement, and how do you think President-elect Alfonsin received it?

[Answer] Alfonsin has received a hot potato, and Castro Madero's announcement is inexplicable... So it just happened that the announcement came before Blix' visit? Or is it that CNEA wants to self-perpetuate itself, with or without Castro Madero, and continue to form the same old cabal? There are a lot of people there who have too many skeletons in their cupboards.

[Question] What sort of skeletons?

[Answer] Well, people like a Colonel Arguello, a sinister character who headed the Ezeiza reprocessing plant. In March 1976 they kidnapped the entire reprocessing team with their head, Dr Maximo Victoria. Arguello came in, banged a revolver down on the desk, and then ordered everybody into the room screaming at them that they were all communists. They kidnapped Victoria -- he's in Switzerland now -- a chemical engineer called Calle and the head of the reprocessing plant, Santiago Morazzo.

[Question] What happened after that?

[Answer] Castro Madero came in, putting in his own men, and booting out a former team which had already produced plutonium with Argentine technology. He replaced this with foreign technology, bought turnkey, i.e., in a package. He turned all our nuclear policy upside down and started those Pilcaniyeu experiments -- this was in 1978. Pilcaniyeu is the only thing produced with Argentine know-how because Techint is building the reprocessing plant.

[Question] Did all this start with Castro Madero?

[Answer] In actual fact Guillan first introduced a policy of insanity. In the 60s he wanted to build about 15 nuclear power stations. Then they went through a "purely scientific" stage and then they turned around and started to buy turnkey atom plants, first from Germany and then from the Canadians. Then they tried to buy heavy water from Canada, but the Canadian unions objected, demanding the release of 14 state of siege detainees. Castro Madero told everyone that it was the Canadian Government that didn't want to sell us the heavy water, but that's a lie. So he dashed off to Switzerland to buy a complete do-it-yourself plant. It's the Arroyito plant, God only knows if it'll ever produce anything. Castro Madero said it would cost 350 million dollars, but it's already cost a billion and nothing's come out of it.

Guiller and Castro Madero had a policy, they wanted to make the Army believe they could give them an atom bomb. After all, the Army believed it could hold the Malvinas, didn't it?

[Question] From your point of view, what results has this policy achieved?

[Answer] Not very much. Castro Madero has gone through a billion dollars, more than the entire province of Santa Fe. Pilcaniyeu has cost 100 million dollars and all they've got to show for it is a few kilos of uranium.

[Question] Castro Madero says the Pilcaniyeu system is gaseous diffusion. What do you have against it?

[Answer] Gaseous diffusion is over 40 years old. Nowadays there are much better systems, like ultracentrifugation as used by the Dutch, the Germans and the British. It costs half as much as Castro Madero's system and its production rate is comparable. Then there are much cheaper systems, like the laser system, although nobody has built a laser plant yet. But we could develop a laser research system with a million dollars or even less.

[Question] Wasn't laser technology ever tried here?

[Answer] In 1975 I had contracted its development with CNEA but Castro Madero didn't like it and vetoed the idea. He doesn't care about Argentine technology, all he wants to do is buy, buy, buy.

CNEA owes one and a half billion dollars. At one time they owed five billion but it was written down twice and the government took it over afterwards.

[Question] So in the final analysis, have we progressed in nuclear technology or haven't we? Everybody says this is one of the few things we've really achieved lately.

[Answer] Yes, there's been progress. But I'd like to see Pilcaniyeu in commercial production. Where are they going to get the power from? You need so much power they'd need all the output available from Chocon or Futaleufu in order to be able to operate successfully.

[Question] The question is then, why did they pick on gaseous diffusion if it's so expensive?

[Answer] That's a good question. Probably because you can set a plant up quite quickly. It costs more, but it's simpler. You compress uranium gas and force it through a porous wall, and every time it goes through you enrich the uranium by one or two per mill. The enrichment is very reduced in view of the power you squander.

They claim they've been able to enrich "a few kilos." I would guess it's more likely to be "a few grammes."

[Question] With this enrichening system, what commercial, industrial and scientific results are likely?

[Answer] If you've got a one percent enrichment you could get a bit better yield from the existing plants. If you want to produce uranium for Ezeiza and Bariloche you've got to shove the uranium through the wall until you get 20 percent enrichment. Want a bomb? Enrichment, 95 percent...

[Question] How long would they take to get 95 percent?

[Answer] That depends. You'd need huge tanks, enormously costly materials, and any amount of technical complications.

[Question] But some people say that if Alfonsín okays it he could have a bomb in three months.

[Answer] Definitely not. Blix himself said they haven't got to 20 percent yet. I really don't know how long it would take. The bomb subject is handed with too much irresponsibility. Even Alfonsín hasn't been too clear on this issue. Right now all the developed nations are scrutinizing us to try and find out what's really going on here.

[Question] What reaction could this produce in Latin America?

[Answer] An arms race. Brazil's worried, so is Chile. If things got hot Chile would immediately destroy the plant and the Chocon complex, even if Argentina demolished Chile in reprisal. A country with a bomb becomes strategically stronger, to be sure. But it's madness. Why should we become a warrior country when so many Argentines are starving? Do we want atom plants or do we want to be able to feed people? Some countries are giving up nuclear power. The U.S. and the USSR are going to have to give it up because they don't know what to do with the nuclear waste. And we're spending billions to get a few kilos of uranium. I agree with investment in research, but certainly not all that much money.

[Question] You say that the Pilcaniyeu method was chosen because it is easy and quick to set up. What was the hurry about? Do we need enriched uranium in so much of a hurry?

[Answer] No. Even if they were in a hurry they should have gone into ultra-centrifugation or laser technology.

[Question] What about the treaties? It is well known that Argentina hasn't signed the Tlatelolco treaty for denuclearization of the Americas.

[Answer] Castro Madero is mixing everything up. First he says the 1976 Non-Proliferation Treaty is discriminatory. Then he says Tlatelolco is discriminatory. Then he says it isn't. It's all a scheme. Most countries of the world signed those treaties. So what makes Argentina different? Latin America is waiting for us to sign Tlatelolco. CNEA says Cuba isn't signing either. But Cuba has its reasons, they want the U.S. to get out of Guantanamo.

[Question] Will uranium enrichment help industry, farming, medicine?

[Answer] One thing the CNEA should do and doesn't is produce isotopes. So we spend money buying isotopes abroad.

[Question] They've been doing things they needn't.

[Answer] Whenever scientists tried to get together they were kidnapped or had to leave the country. Rosario University's Professor Mignaco was told to get out or he'd be killed. Others followed him. Only last December was part of the Argentine Physicists' Association able to meet. I said I wasn't going to go unless I could talk freely. Because CNEA men, like Dr. Julio Fausto and Dr. Roberto Granton, would personally threaten you if you asked questions about missing physicists.

Castro Madero's announcement is like the Peron-Richter announcement when they said they'd soon have the bomb. Castro Madero is an anti-Peronist but he's the Peron of the CNEA. He's got his sycophants and he handles them as he wishes. The whole country is in danger and Castro Madero sails serenely on.

[Question] Yes, surely an atom bomb is very dangerous in a country with political instability and where the Armed Forces have so much influence.

[Answer] This sort of thing should be handled by the President and Congress only. Of course, Castro Madero is no fool and he talks the military into anything; besides, it isn't very difficult when it comes to armament. Physicists know the military want the bomb, if not, why all the secrecy? We shouldn't let them get away with it, we've already seen what they can do. Castro Madero represents a sector of the Navy. We should try and stop them making enriched uranium and if they've made it already, check on what they do with it. Or plutonium, which is even more dangerous because of its radiation which is lethal. You can make a bomb with five kilos of plutonium. You need 30 kilos of uranium.

[Question] A French philosopher, Andre Glucksmann, says the atom bomb is a weapon of the Devil.

[Answer] Well, there are five, six or seven countries with a bomb today and that's bad enough. I'm trying to push for atomic disarmament, universal disarmament, but that's pretty far away. Let's try and get the bomb deactivated first.

[Question] What is the Third World's role in all this?

[Answer] The Third World should push for disarmament but not at the cost of more armament. If we have a war it won't be atom bombs, it'll be thermonuclear bombs. Let's forget about using the bomb on the Malvinas because in a few hours they'll wipe out Buenos Aires in reprisal. Let's get it straight, nuclear bombs are once-only. Let's forget about the atom programme. No more nuclear power stations for 10 years.

[Question] You're very humanistic about this. Do you think many scientists think as you do?

[Answer] Not very many in Argentina yet, but they're beginning to change their minds. In other countries they're much more conscientious about this.

[Question] That's why you're so concerned about human rights.

[Answer] Look at nuclear waste. What are we going to do about this? We've got a dump somewhere in Chubut that we don't know too much about. What happens if there's an earthquake? Then they talk about firing waste into space. So what happens if a shot fails and sprays a ton of waste all over the scenery?

[Question] So what should Alfonsin do?

[Answer] Get proper advisers, like for instance get Maximo Victoria to come back from Switzerland. He had an interview with Castro Madero, then they took him into another room, hooded him and took him with a Falcon to the Bahia Aguirre. After 20 days he turned up in prison and was only released because of international pressure from other scientists all over the world.

BRIEFS

DGI DIRECTOR RESIGNS -- Buenos Aires, 14 Nov (TELAM) -- It was learned at the DGI [General Taxation Directorate] today that DGI Director Alias Lisicki submitted his resignation last week. Lisicki's resignation was requested by Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe, who named DGI deputy director Edgardo de Simone to replace Lisicki. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1602 GMT 14 Nov 83 PY]

NEW JUSTICE SECRETARY -- Buenos Aires, 14 Nov (DYN) -- Sources close to President-elect Raul Alfonsin today confirmed that Dr Carlos S. Odrizola will be the future secretary of justice of the nation under the Education and Justice Ministry. Future Education and Justice Minister Carlos Alconada Taramburu has already appointed Bernardo Sola, Carlos Gorostiza and Manuel Sadosky as education, culture and science and technics secretaries respectively. [Summary] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1622 GMT 14 Nov 83 PY]

CANADIAN AMBASSADOR GREETES ALFONSIN -- Buenos Aires, 17 Nov (TELAM) -- Canadian Ambassador Peter Stollery [as received] visited Argentine President-elect Raul Alfonsin at his hotel at 1725 today. The ambassador said that he had not brought any personal message but had come only to congratulate Alfonsin on behalf of the Canadian prime minister, Parliament and senators. He indicated that he was carrying a note congratulating President Alfonsin signed by 80 Canadian parliamentarians. [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2035 GMT 17 Nov 83 PY]

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER ON ARCE GOMEZ, TERRORISM

PY292030 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Army Commander in Chief General Alfredo Villarroel has said that the Armed Forces cannot take any action with regard to the alleged presence of former Colonel Luis Arce Gomez in Bolivia. He remarked that the Armed Forces, in compliance with their regulations, discharged Mr Arce Gomez on charges of having committed irregularities during his military career. When asked by Panamericana reporters about the reasons for his visit to Government House, Gen Villarroel replied that he wanted to meet with the president, who is the captain general of the Armed Forces. We simply analyzed the promotion of military officers to the rank of general, he said.

[Begin recording] [Villarroel] We submitted the list of promotions to the rank of general to the captain general of the Armed Forces. The list was prepared by the Armed Forces promotions board.

[Unidentified reporter] General, what is your opinion, in your capacity as Armed Forces commander, of the alleged presence of former Colonel Luis Arce Gomez in Bolivia?

[Villarroel] Look, I have no official information on the matter.

[Reporter] What would be the Armed Forces' attitude (?if he were actually here)?

[Villarroel] Look, former Col Arce was discharged. Therefore, the matter now falls under the jurisdiction of the Interior Ministry.

[Reporter] It is said that a group within the Armed Forces still supports him.

[Villarroel] I believe there are no groups that support him. Discipline prevails within the Armed Forces and regular commanders are respected. [end recording]

Gen Villarroel also expressed his concern over the wave of attacks that have taken place in several districts. He remarked that if the Bolivian police are unable to restore order and security, it is the Armed Forces' duty to cooperate in this task.

[Begin recording] [Villarroel] Well, this is a police duty, right?

[Reporter] And if the police cannot cope with it?

[Villarroel] Well, in that case we will also contribute to internal security. [end recording]

POLICE COMMANDER REPORTS 'ALL-OUT' ANTIDRUG WAR

PY212240 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0925 GMT 20 Nov 83

[By Adalid Cabrera Lemuz]

[Excerpt] La Paz, 20 Nov (EFE) -- Police Commander Mario Teran has told EFE that Bolivia has begun an all-out war against cocaine trafficking by carrying out a number of operations to stop drug traffickers. Teran reported the arrest of Jorge Cuellar Antelo and Jorge Flores Moises, two of Bolivia's main drug traffickers. Cuellar Antelo and Flores Moises were arrested during a police operation carried out in Beni Department, which is the headquarters of national and foreign drug trafficking rings. During the operation police personnel seized 23,000 grams of cocaine, worth approximately 8 million Bolivian pesos (\$40,000), two small planes, two cars, a modern drug processing laboratory, and 10 million Bolivian pesos in cash (\$50,000).

FIGUEIREDO DECLINES TERM EXTENTION, REELECTION

PY291506 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] President Figueiredo does not want nor would he accept an extension of his term or reelection. He admits, however, holding discussions on a possible transition government based on a broad understanding with the opposition.

President Figueiredo's position has been transmitted to reporters accredited to Planalto Palace by presidential spokesman Carlos Atila. In theory, the president wants to begin a new political state in the country in order to confront the economic social crisis.

No decision seems to have been made on this matter, however, according to remarks made to reporter Carlos Rodrigues by Deputy Nelson Marchezan, a government leader in the Chamber of Deputies.

[Begin Rodrigues recording] The extension of President Figueiredo's term in office for 2 or 3 years, a proposal widely discussed in political circles, is one of the alternatives for a government-opposition understanding regarding the reestablishment of direct elections for the presidency. The chief of state, however, is not granting approval for this proposal.

Planalto Palace spokesman Carlos Atila has said that the president does not want and would not accept an extension of his term in office. According to Atila, President Figueiredo does not want to remain in the presidency a single day longer than [word indistinct] when his term in office will end.

A government leader in the Chamber of Deputies, Deputy Nelson Marchezan, also said that President Figueiredo does not want an extension of his term. He admits, however, that this alternative could end disagreements within the Social Democratic Party as far as direct elections are concerned. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT NOT TO ALLOW LEGALIZATION OF PCB

PY301046 Paris AFP in Spanish 0410 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 28 Nov (AFP) -- The Brazilian Government continues to oppose the legalization of the outlawed Brazilian Communist Party (PCB), it was officially announced in Brasilia today. The announcement was made by presidential spokesman Carlos Atila, and it was considered as an answer to Minas Gerais Governor Tancredo Neves of the PMDB (Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party) who last Sunday called for the PCB's legalization.

The Brazilian Constitution forbids legalization of the PCB and the National Security Law in force provides for 1-5 years imprisonment of those who try to organize political parties that have been dissolved by a court decision.

FIGUEIREDO TO SUPPORT DIRECT BALLOT PROPOSAL

PY291515 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] President Figueiredo stated yesterday in Sao Paulo that if the opposition presents the proposal for the reestablishment of the direct balloting system, he will not oppose its approval. He added that, personally, he is for the direct ballot system, but that the Social Democratic Party is against it.

Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos has stated that the military sector will accept statements supporting the direct ballot system, "providing that the direct elections are held calmly and peacefully." General Waldir Vasconcelos, chief of the Armed Forces Staff, is against the proposal "because it would be a plebiscite."

Rally Endorses Direct Ballot

PY281250 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Thousands gathered at the (Chaves Milho) Square in (Rua) Park, Sao Paulo, to attend a rally organized by several organizations endorsing the direct ballot system for president. In addition to the direct ballot system for the president, the speakers at the rally dealt with other subjects such as the fight against the salary [word indistinct] the IMF, and the so-called U.S. aggression against Central America. No IMF restrictions, shouted Brazilian Democratic Movement Party jurist (Eli Bigudo).

Jair (Menghelli), leader of the Sao Bernardo do Campo Metalworkers Union, said that the direct ballot system is one of the people's rights, like amnesty. Governors Franco Montoro from Sao Paulo and Leonel Brizola from Rio de Janeiro did not show up. Workers Party President Luiz Inacio da Silva also spoke. He said that the direct ballot system will become a reality as soon as it becomes a fait accompli.

DEBATE ON BEHIND-SCHEDULE NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY292135 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Nov 83 p 42

[Excerpts] The Brazilian Government has begun a debate on the Brazilian nuclear program with an eye to catching up with Argentina on the mastery of nuclear technology.

Brazil should have inaugurated the first demonstration unit for isotopic enrichment, the NUCLEI [Nuclebrae Isotope Enrichment, Inc], in Resende, Rio de Janeiro state this year. The inauguration of that unit was announced last year by President Joao Baptista Figueiredo at the inauguration of the Fuel Element Factory, also in Resende. The NUCLEI project is behind schedule, and construction has stopped due to lack of funds. This unit would represent the first step toward a uranium enrichment plant.

To complete the nuclear fuel cycle, Brazil would have to invest \$2.2 billion over the next 2 years. Brazil already has a lab scale plant in Belo Horizonte, but it still has to build the experimental plant in Resende. The experimental plant will still have to be expanded into a commercial plant. In addition to the NUCLEI complex in Resende, Brazil would need to set up a uranium reprocessing plant in the state of Santa Catarina. The Argentines already have a reprocessing plant.

ARMY COMMANDER ON URANIUM CYCLE TECHNOLOGY

PY291318 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] In a ceremony to be presided over by Army Minister General Walter Pires on 22 December, General Leonidas Pires Goncalves will assume the post of commander of the 3d Army.

Speaking in Brasilia, Gen Pires Goncalves stated that Brazil will soon conclude the uranium technology cycle that will allow manufacture of the atomic bomb.

Gen Pires Goncalves also said that during the past 20 years the Soviet Union has greatly progressed in this field, to the point that some analysts feel that it has even surpassed the United States in war materiel. The new 3d Army commander also said that a confrontation between the two powers is rather improbable because it would have incalculable effects on mankind.

SPOKESMAN ON ARMS SALES TO IRAN, SOUTH AFRICA

PY292348 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 29 Nov 83 p 5

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Brazil will not sell arms to Iran while that country is at war, Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas affirmed yesterday. Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro received Iranian Ambassador Shahmard Kananí Moghadam yesterday to review relations between the two countries, but the arms sale question was not discussed, because "Brazil's position on this question is well known," Pericas said.

According to Pericas, the Brazilian position not to sell arms to Iran was clearly explained to the Iranian foreign minister during the latest UN General Assembly, and Ambassador Moghadam did not bring up the question during the meeting with Minister Saraiva Guerreiro.

The Itamaraty spokesman also explained that the light arms, hunting guns and ammunitions, and small caliber revolvers which are being sold to South Africa are not subject to controls specified under a UN Security Council resolution.

GABONESE FOREIGN MINISTER TALKS WITH PRESIDENT

PY240109 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] This morning President Joao Figueriedo granted an audience to Martin Bongo, the Gabonese minister of cooperation and foreign affairs. The audience was also attended by Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Gabonese Ambassador to Brazil Victor Manyanya, Gabonese State Counselor [name indistinct], the chief of the Gabonese Political Department, and the director of the Department of the America.

Joint Communique Signed

PY251325 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The Atlantic Ocean, which links the shores of Africa and the Americas, should be kept free of international tension. This statement was made today by Saraiva Guerreiro and Gabonese Foreign Minister Martin Bongo in a joint declaration released by Itamaraty at the conclusion of the Gabonese foreign minister's visit to Brasilia.

The two ministers deplored the adverse trends of the current world economic crisis, such as the high interest rates and protectionism advocated by the industrialized countries, which are increasingly affecting the developing countries. Saraiva Guerreiro and Martin Bongo agreed that only the implementation of a new economic order and the intensification of international economic cooperation can reduce the current income imbalance among nations.

In the bilateral field, the two foreign ministers emphasized the need to explore other sectors of cooperation between Brazil and Gabon, such as agriculture, the merchant marine, communications, tourism, energy, and the lumber industry.

PINOCHET APPOINTS NEW UNDER SECRETARIES

PY291215 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet has decided to shift some under secretaries at the Economy, Finance, Education, and Public Works Ministries and in the government's General Secretariat.

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Valenzuela, who is now deputy director of the Sports and Recreation Directorate [DIGEDER], has been appointed under secretary of the Economy Ministry; Colonel Manuel Concha Martinez, now under secretary of the Economy Ministry, has been appointed under secretary of the Finance Ministry; (Rene Salame Martin), now director general of the Education Ministry, has been appointed under secretary of the Education Ministry; Colonel Fernando (Hormazabal), under secretary of the government General Secretariat, has been appointed under secretary of the Public Works Ministry; and Lieutenant Colonel Carlos (Krimmins), the present deputy director of the (?Civilian Organizations) Department, has been appointed under secretary of the government General Secretariat.

TERRORIST ATTACKS ON OFFICIALS CONDEMNED

PY291324 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Referring to recent terrorist attacks against public servants in a speech delivered yesterday in La Serena, Government Secretary General Alfonso Marquez de la Plata noted that the government has answered these abominable acts with the full force of the law. He added that public opinion is witness that the security organizations are fulfilling their duty effectively and that they are handing over to the courts those responsible for these criminal actions.

He reasserted that the government will not yield to this campaign of unspeakable objectives which strives to leave Chileans defenseless against violence so that the fatherland can be submerged into chaos and anarchy. He added: On the contrary, we shall implement all necessary measures to confront this scourge of Western society. Marquez de la Plata said that the large majority of Chileans repudiate terrorist violence and that they will not be intimidated by it. He added that Chileans reject Marxism and that they will not accept demagogic tricks, since they aspire to achieve development through work rather than political intrigues.

AD PLANNING FOUR DEMONSTRATIONS IN DECEMBER

PY292141 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] After a meeting of the Democratic Alliance [AD] Executive Committee, Alliance leader Patricio Morales has reported that the AD will stage four demonstrations in Santiago next month.

[Begin Morales recording] A decision has been made to ask the AD mobilization committee to begin organizing four demonstrations and to request the necessary authorizations for them. The demonstrations will take place throughout greater Santiago. Essentially, the Pudahuel, San Miguel, Conchalí, Nunoa, and La Reina neighborhoods were considered as possible locations for the rallies. The mobilization committee will be asked to organize the demonstrations and to request the necessary authorizations. [end recording]

Morales added that these four demonstrations might be staged simultaneously, although he explained that the decision will be made by the mobilization committee. The AD leader noted that the demonstrations are some of the activities that the AD will stage during the first half of December. Patricio Morales was also asked about the public action in defense of Chilean copper resources that will take place at Caupolicán Theater tomorrow.

[Begin Morales recording] After failing to reach agreement on the mining code, the AD decided that individual parties and not the AD as such will attend the rally called by the National Union Coordinating Board. As you all know, the press has given wide coverage to Hugo Zepeda's disagreement with the code. Therefore, the AD did not reach agreement, because agreements within the AD must be unanimous. Thus, the political parties will attend the rally, but the AD as such will not participate in it. [end recording]

Concerning the disagreement between Republican Rightist Party leader Hugo Sepeda and the AD over Chilean copper resources, Morales said that the press has magnified the issue. The problem will be solved as soon as Enrique Cima returns to our country, he noted. Morales also remarked that no changes are expected thus far in the next president of the Democratic Alliance. If no decision to the contrary is made, Socialist leader Ricardo Lagos will take over tomorrow.

POLICE DISPERSE WOMEN REQUESTING CNI DISSOLUTION

PY291353 Paris AFP in Spanish 0249 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Santiago, 28 Nov (AFP) -- Using tear gas, police today disrupted an improvised demonstration by approximately 350 women demanding the dissolution of the National Intelligence Center (CNI). The group, which had gathered in Italia Square in downtown Santiago, was able to disseminate a manifesto noting the need for justice, peace, equal rights, and democracy in Chile. The accusations against the CNI have increased following the Buddhist monk-style suicide by a Concepcion worker demanding the release of his two children who had been held in a secret CNI jail since 11 November.

ANTI-CNI DEMONSTRATION DISRUPTED BY CARABINEROS

PY301141 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] About 100 people have marched in downtown Santiago shouting slogans against the National Intelligence Center, CNI. The demonstrators walked along three blocks carrying signs and shouting anti-CNI slogans. Carabineros dispersed the marchers.

COURT ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF MIR MEMBER

PY291523 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] The appellate court has (?ordered) an investigation into the whereabouts of a high-ranking Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] leader. The Second Appellate Court made this decision regarding (Jorge Puentes Alarcon), who was a member of the MIR Central Committee. [Words indistinct] (Puentes Alarcon) was last seen on 17 May 1975. However, new information supplied to the courts has led court officials to believe that he was arrested again after this date. (Puentes Alarcon) was also president of the Concepcion University Student Federation.

AIR FORCE MANEUVERS NEAR ARGENTINA SAID 'NORMAL'

PY291556 Paris AFP in Spanish 1245 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Punta Arenas, Chile, 29 Nov (AFP) -- Regional Intendant General Juan Guillermo Toro Davila today stated that the maneuvers being carried out by the Chilean Air Force over the Strait of Magellan, in the extreme south of the country, near the Argentine zone of Santa Cruz, are normal year-end activities.

Part of the maneuvers, staged particularly by fighter pilots, will be observed by Defense Minister Patricio Carvajal and the commanders in chief of the Air Force, Navy, and Army. The official reports on the maneuvers did not mention the type of airplanes to be used or the sector in which the maneuvers will be carried out.

SANTIAGO BUS STRIKE HINDERS PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

PY252103 Paris AFP in Spanish 1237 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] Santiago, 25 Nov (AFP) -- The strike by bus drivers, who are demanding a salary increase, today hindered public transportation in Santiago. The 24-hour strike was called by the unions of some 20 bus lines, which represent one-fifth of all bus lines, about 20,000 vehicles, and 2,000 drivers.

Police sources have reported that not all union members complied with the union instructions, which called on drivers to stop working as of 0000. Press sources have reported that early morning commuting of Santiago residents to working areas was hindered in only some neighborhoods. Santiago has a total of 4 million inhabitants. Last Thursday, the bus drivers union sought the intervention of the government to solve the problem, but the Interior Ministry declared the strike illegal and refused to negotiate with the employers.

UDI REPUDIATES FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN COUNTRY

PY291321 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The Democratic Independent Union [UDI] has issued a statement categorically repudiating the recent increase in cases of foreign intervention in Chilean domestic affairs. The UDI states that it goes against all international principles for governments with which Chile maintains diplomatic relations to issue statements about Chilean domestic policy, regardless of their objective. The UDI notes that because Chile is not a colony, Chileans will never tolerate such treatment. The UDI fully agrees with former President Alessandri, who recently said that the attitude of certain Chilean politicians and political parties that seek support abroad is absolutely unpatriotic.

HAVANA CITES CHURCH DEMAND FOR RETURN OF EXILES

PA281844 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] The Episcopal Permanent Committee has announced that the Chilean church hierarchy will demand that General Augusto Pinochet's fascist regime end the exile of thousands of Chilean citizens who were forced to leave their country following the 1973 military coup.

This decision was announced by Monsignor Tomas Gonzalez, who said at a Santiago news conference that this demand will be formally presented to Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa by Msgr Carlos Gonzalez, acting president of the Episcopal Conference, and by Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno. According to the regime, there are 11,000 Chileans living in exile, but human rights organizations believe there are more than 200,000 exiles.

Juan Francisco Fresno, the archbishop of Santiago, yesterday denounced the climate of repression that Chile is enduring and noted that human rights violations also violate the rights of the nation.

According to other reports, a military court has sentenced six men and one woman to life in prison. They were charged with being members of the illegal Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] and of having participated in a bank robbery. Those sentenced are Victor Zuniga, Carlos Garcia, Gonzalo Gonzalez, Rodolfo Rodriguez, Nelson Cartagena, Juan Gallardo, and Miriam Ortega.

HAVANA CITES ARRESTS, STATEMENT ON CNI, BOMBINGS

PA270024 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] The fascist military regime in Chile has ordered that 17 people who were arrested by the police while watching a fire in the Santiago neighborhood of Conchalí, be banished for 3 months to towns in northern Chile. The fire took place on Tuesday. The police accused those arrested of attacking Augusto Pinochet's security forces.

Other reports cite a statement by Chilean Justice Minister Jaime Del Valle, who declared that the dictatorship will not dissolve the National Information Center despite strong pressure and demands. Only hours before, the Chilean Court of Appeals had ruled that the National Information Center, the name for the Chilean regime's secret police, lacks authority to make arrests and to hold people in secret jails.

Meanwhile, three more bombs have exploded in the last few hours in the Capital of Chile. One was placed on railroad tracks near the Jose Maria Caro neighborhood of Santiago. On Thursday night and early Friday morning, 17 more bombs exploded, causing damage to the Santiago-Valparaiso road, high voltage towers, banking establishments and other facilities.

HAVANA NOTES CHILEAN DELEGATION'S VISIT TO PRC

FL291301 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Beijing -- A Chilean Government delegation is now on an official visit to Beijing to promote an increase of Chilean exports to China and to strengthen bilateral trade. The delegation is headed by Brigadier General Sergio Perez, vice president of the Production Development Corporation [CORFO]. The Chilean delegation was feted by Zheng Iyobin, vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade just after its arrival in the country.

China and Chile have very close economic and trade ties that are implemented through yearly government-to-government agreements, and trade between the two countries amounted to \$114 million during 1982. Official Chinese sources have said that since Augusto Pinochet's regime came to power in 1973, Chinese exports to Chile have increased from \$1 million to \$20 million and Chilean exports to China have increased to \$120 million.

FARC COMMANDERS ENDORSE PEACE DIALOGUE

PA291852 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- The commanders of the 25 fronts into which the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, is divided have endorsed the efforts that the extremist organization's staff is making within the framework of the country's process of pacification.

Journalist Alberto Rojas Puyo announced the guerrilla commanders' position at a special Peace Commission meeting. Rojas Puyo, a member of the Peace Commission, recently met in the mountains with FARC leader Manuel Marulanda Velez. Former Minister Otto Morales Benitez also attended that meeting.

As commanders of the 25 FARC fronts, the declaration released by the guerrilla leaders states, we endorse the talks for a cease-fire, a truce, and peace, which have been (?suggested) by our movement's staff. We leave the talks with President Belisario Betancur in the hands of the central staff's secretariat, with the mediation of the Peace Commission.

Several Peace Commission members immediately described this message from the guerrilla commanders as positive, as it affirms support for that extremist organization's staff. Marulanda Velez, or Tirofijo; Jacobo Arenas; (Jaime Huarana); (Alfonso Plana); and Roman Reyes make up the FARC staff.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE -- During the first 8 months of 1983 Colombian exports decreased by 8.3 percent compared with the same period last year, while imports decreased by 8.6 percent. The trade deficit for this year is 9.1 percent below last year. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 22 Nov 83 p 10 PA]

COOPERATION WITH FRANCE -- Technical and cultural cooperation agreements were signed yesterday by Colombian Ambassador to France Diego Uribe Vargas and French official Jacques Boutet after 4 days of meetings of a mixed commission in France. The cultural agreements include the exchange of cultural presentations, joint publication of books, granting of scholarships by France, and sending of French experts to hold artistic workshops in Colombia. The technical cooperation agreements include visits by French technicians in the fields of computers, agronomy, sea resources, new energy sources, and cold storage plants. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Nov 83 p 12-A PA]

PLANES PURCHASED -- It was announced yesterday that the Defense Ministry has acquired two Fokker planes for the Colombian Air Force as well as light and heavy material to initiate a large civil-military development campaign throughout the country. The two planes cost approximately \$10 million, and the cost of the material has been estimated at \$100 million. The planes will arrive from the Netherlands and the materiel from Brazil. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Nov 83 p 7-A PA]

INTERIOR MINISTER VIEWS SECURITY PROBLEMS

PY300203 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0430 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpt] A special investigating commission has proven that terrorists were responsible for the massacre of numerous peasants who participated in the municipal elections in the town of Socos. This disclosure was made today by Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca. Interior Minister Percovich added that the commission found out that the murdered people, including the local governor and his family, were closely linked to Popular Action and had actively participated in the 13 November municipal elections.

In statements made at the end of a meeting at the Interior Ministry, Percovich said that thus far terrorists have killed 79 members of the security forces. Here are his comments:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] How many policemen have died in the fight against terrorism?

[Percovich] Unfortunately, 54 members of the Civil Guard, 5 of the Investigative Police, and 20 of the Republican Guard have been killed thus far. We categorically deplore these regrettable murders, and we also express our solidarity with their relatives and the institutions to which they belonged.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, why aren't more police stations being opened? A congressman has stated that police stations are being closed rather than opened.

[Percovich] They are not being closed. What happens is that in specific places police stations that have very few personnel or inadequate facilities are withdrawn and later reopened with more personnel and more adequate facilities. For example, in the emergency area more than 20 police stations have been reinstalled with a staff consisting of 24, 20, and in some places 15 policemen. In the provinces of Ayacucho, Huancavelica, and Andahuaylas, there are more than 60 police stations and posts. We intend to install many more in order to guarantee the people's safety. It is impossible for us to satisfy all needs, because we do not have enough personnel. The people should be aware that in the emergency area we have had to increase the number of Civil Guards, Republican Guards, and Investigative Police personnel. Moreover, in Lima and in other places, approximately 4,000 members of the security forces are protecting public institutions, shops, and the homes of prominent people. [end recording]

POPULAR ACTION LEADER REJECTS IMF PROPOSALS

PY300008 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Nov 83 p 3

[Excerpt] The demands of the IMF were rejected yesterday by government and opposition spokesmen because such demands are unacceptable and contrary to the spirit of the national Constitution. Popular Action Secretary General Senator Javier Alva Orlandini emphatically contended that the government must not accept and IMF experts' suggestion that is detrimental to the spirit of the Constitution and to the country's sovereignty. Alva Orlandini suggested that Economy and Finance Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor be careful in considering IMF proposals. He said that the agrarian reform, the labor stability, and the industrial community respond to constitutional rules that are fully in force, and that "the IMF has no authority to make proposals which are contrary to the Constitution."

As we reported yesterday, the IMF experts who have been in Lima since 17 November have prepared a working document urging Peruvian authorities to adopt rigid fiscal measures, and to eliminate what they term "barriers hindering production." For its part, the government asked the IMF to appoint a resident representative in Lima.

Alva Orlandini, who said that he did not read the text of the IMF working document published by LA REPUBLICA yesterday, stated that he would only hope that the representative not be a "royal" envoy, because Peru cannot be treated as a vassal nor can it be subjected to a mandate. The Popular Action leader explained that the IMF was nothing more than an institution to provide technical assistance and guarantees for foreign creditors. He also said that Minister Pastor should report to the Senate and the Bicameral Budget Commission on his talks with the IMF and the suggestions made by its experts.

In what could be understood as criticism of the government, Alva Orlandini noted that thought should be given to the fact that the administration is governing on behalf of 19 million Peruvians, a high percentage of whom are living in conditions bordering on misery and hunger, adding that the economy must be at man's service, not man at the economy's service.

11 BODIES FOUND; TERRORIST ACTIONS REPORTED

PY261911 Paris AFP in Spanish 1508 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Lima, 26 Nov (AFP) -- It was reported here today that travelers coming from Andahuaylas, Apurimac, have reported to the Ayacucho authorities the discovery of 11 decaying bodies in the neighborhood of Tocco District, Ayacucho, 575 km southeast of Lima. The travelers said Friday that the victims, whose bodies were found close to the Ayacucho-Cusco highway, were apparently riddled with bullets as evidenced by bullet holes and the condition of some of their faces. This will make identification difficult. It was learned that the discovery was reported to the police and judicial authorities, who ordered the removal of the bodies on Saturday.

Meanwhile, a group of 15 Shining Path members ambushed and killed two policemen near Cinco Esquinas, in the Ayacucho Province of Huanta. Six terrorists were also reportedly killed during the action. Another subversive group murdered three persons and wounded two others inside a billiards parlor in San Miguel, Ayacucho, however, other reports indicated that as many as seven people were wounded in the action. Three minor dynamite attacks were staged against private houses and a club in Lima last night, while in Cajamarca, 840 km northeast of Lima, a powerful bomb destroyed a door and the windows of the Central Bank building. No casualties were reported.

City Hall Fire

PY212303 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p 8

[By Willy Moron]

[Text] Cerro de Pasco, 9 Nov -- At 1115 yesterday a group of heavily armed terrorists raided and set fire to Ticiacayan's city hall, located in the city's main square. The fire caused damage estimated at more than 15 million soles. The fire, which was set by hooded individuals, claimed no lives because no employees were in the building. The flames destroyed most of the furniture, but not the civil registry's records, however. Since the terrorists did not find any money in the city hall, they beat an old woman named Francisca and robbed her of nearly 100,000 soles. The old woman owns a warehouse in Ticiacayan.

MONTEVIDEO POLICE CHIEF ON PARAMILITARY GROUPS

PY282020 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 CMT 28 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Colonel Washington Varela, Montevideo police chief, has told El Espectador, Radio Sport, and Cadena de Oro that his force is investigating a threat against Uruguayan comedian Alberto Candéau. Last night an anonymous telephone caller threatened the comedian, who read the declaration of the political parties at the obelisk. The phone call was received at the Solis Theater while Candéau was acting in the play "El Vestidor."

Colonel Varela said that the police are not going to react to the type of provocations made yesterday at the close of the rally at the foot of the obelisk. At the beginning of his statements, referring to the alleged existence of a paramilitary group self-styled as the Ultra Rightist Commando for Nationalist Action [Comando de Accion Nacionalista de Ultra Derecha], Colonel Varela stated:

[Begin Varela recording] Well, you are referring to the claim published recently in a news weekly. In the first place, I want to point out that no claim of having received a leaflet was made to the police. Regarding the charges in the weekly, I find the content of the leaflet it published very strange, but I find it even stranger that the claim was made public before the police had been informed about it, since the police have the specific duty of investigating these cases.

We summoned the journalist that made the claim and questioned him about it so that he would give us the necessary information to start the investigations. When he was asked whether he had really received a leaflet, he said that he had, but when he was asked how he had received it, he called that information a press secret and refused to answer the question. Nor did he say who else had received that type of leaflet.

In view of this attitude, we have not been able to start the necessary investigations immediately, since the starting point of these investigations should have been to determine how these leaflets were received. [end recording]

COLORADO DELEGATES SEEK TO EXPEL INTENDANT

PY290138 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Delegates to the Colorado Party convention have requested that architect (Walter Vermisí's) party membership be revoked. The request, signed by (Jorge Chapelli), former president of the republic, and submitted to the Colorado Party National Executive Board, is based on (Vermisí's) having accepted the post of Paysandu municipal intendant. Those who signed the request believe that, since (Vermisí) is a member of the party, he must abide by party rules and observe the decisions made by the party leadership, especially those made by the national convention. It has been requested that this subject be included on the agenda of the next national convention.

HERRERA DISCUSSES CONTADORA ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES

FL292246 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1830 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Mexico City, Nov 29 (NOTIMEX) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, in an interview that appeared in UNOMASUNO today, said that the Contadora Group would sign an economic cooperation protocol on the Central American nations.

In statements to an UNOMASUNO special correspondent in Caracas, Herrera Campins said that the agreement would be signed within the framework of the Latin American Economic System, and that the United States and Canada would be invited to participate. The Venezuelan president announced that the cooperation protocol would be signed on 15 December. Its objective will be for the nations to overcome their backwardness and to be able to establish solid conditions for a lasting peace.

Referring to the Contadora Group's activity, he said that it must move with caution so that it does not commit the same sin it denounces -- intervention. He specified that the Group's task is to bring the parties into agreement, because peace in Central America will depend on political will being transformed into decisions by the governments of the area and not on a superstructural decision made by Contadora and imposed from outside. President Herrera added that the Central American armies should commit themselves to respect the Contadora agreements, especially those involving non-intervention, prohibition of foreign advisers, refusal of countries to allow their territory to be used to invade other countries, and avoidance of arms traffic.

Herrera Campins also said that the supply of Venezuelan petroleum to Nicaragua within the framework of the San Jose Agreement did not depend on political factors but rather on economic ones, because the suspension of that supply resulted from tardiness in payment by the Sandinist Government. Nevertheless, he recognized that political pressures not to renew the cooperation until the debts are paid exist in his country.

The Venezuelan president told UNOMASUNO that Mexican-Venezuelan relations are excellent, and despite differences caused by the signing of the French-Mexican communique on El Salvador, relations between the two countries have never been stronger than during his administration, first with Lopez Portillo and then with De la Madrid.

PANAMA'S NORIEGA CONFIRMS ELECTIONS TO HERRERA

PA290432 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2341 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Caracas, 28 Nov (EFE) -- The summons to general elections in Panama for May 1984 was confirmed today in Caracas before Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panamanian Defense Forces.

"I was very pleased to hear General Noriega confirm that Panama will hold general elections in May 1984," President Herrera said. He added that "it is undoubtedly positive news, very positive from the political and social viewpoints."

Noriega arrived in Caracas today for a 2-day official visit. He will also meet with high-ranking officers of the Venezuelan Armed Forces.

Following a meeting that lasted 1 hour, General Noriega and President Herrera Campins expressed pleasure with the climate of cordiality and friendliness that prevailed during the meeting.

President Herrera Campins said: "We spoke at length about the efforts being made by Contadora, which have prevented the unleashing of conflicts in the Central American region that no one wants.

President Herrera Campins added: "Believe that there will be stabilization only when there are pluralist democracies in the region, and when economic growth and a fair distribution of the wealth facilitate a decrease in the great social injustices that exist in the Central American countries."

Later President Herrera Campins recalled that the visit had an "informal and friendly" character, and therefore specific agreements regarding the efforts of the Contadora Group should not be expected.

PSUM'S ALVAREZ INTERVIEWED BY HUNGARIAN PAPER

AU291340 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 20 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) was established in 1981 through a merger of the Mexican Communist Party, which was founded in 1919 -- but cooperated illegally until 1978 -- with several smaller political groups.

Pablo Gomez Alvarez, the party's secretary general, is a 37-year-old economist. He was one of the leaders of the 1968 students' movement and was subsequently imprisoned for 3 years. Following his release, he was elected a Central Committee member, became a member of the Politburo in 1977, and was elected secretary general at the first PSUM congress. Pablo Alvarez granted an interview to a member of our staff in Moscow during his present visit to the Soviet Union.

[Interviewer] How did it come about that the Communist Party merged with the rest of the parties and what did this step accomplish for the participants?

[Alvarez] We were all of the opinion that the unfavorable traditions that had split the left wing and the forces supporting socialism had to be brought to an end. Other factors that played a part were the realizations that a stronger leftist party is needed than was previously the case and that the parties concerned had for long professed identical views on the most important issues. Of course, the fusion was quite a courageous step, for it is not often that a party with such an impressive past as the Mexican Communist Party merges with other parties. We are of the opinion that there are still other leftist forces in our country with whom we could cooperate and, therefore, our organizational activity has not yet concluded in this respect. As for the result, in its present form our party has more possibilities than previously and has become more open; its political influence has also increased in the country. And I think that this is noteworthy.

[Interviewer] What results has the August party congress produced?

[Alvarez] Primarily our immediate tasks were discussed at the congress. We have laid down our fundamental guiding principles with regard to a possible merger with additional organizations. Our congress has shown that our party is still developing and wrestles -- precisely in view of this -- with numerous problems. However, disputes have remained within the limits set by inner-party democracy and there have not been any significant personnel changes. In the end we have accomplished an important job in determining our domestic political guideline as well.

[Interviewer] How does the PSUM assess Mexico's internal position?

[Alvarez] Mexico is in a profound economic crisis today. The new government is pursuing a so-called policy of restrictions, reducing social expenditures, and regarding as natural the reduction of jobs and the resulting increase of unemployment. However, although it worsens the living standard of the working masses, the economic policy of orthodox capitalism is incapable of achieving a genuine and lasting solution to our problems. Contrary to this, we are striving to unite all forces that are in a position to act against the economic policy of the government and in favor of a policy we call a democratic, popular, and national policy. Of course, temporary concessions do not resolve the problems of Mexico and the rest of the countries that are against a large-scale indebtedness and, therefore, our party comes out in favor of the creation of a new world economic order as soon as possible. In view of Mexico's historical traditions, our position coincides in many respects with the Mexican Government's stance on foreign political issues.

[Interviewer] What is the PSUM's opinion on the current international situation?

[Alvarez] We are of the opinion that the deterioration of the international situation and the intensification of tension are primarily consequences of the current policy of the United States. President Reagan is pursuing a more aggressive policy than any President before him, and not only does this manifest itself in the constant intensification of the arms race, but it is also clearly felt in the approach to the regional conflicts occurring at various points of the world. Our party comes out resolutely against this U.S. policy, including the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in West Europe, and it supports the peace proposals that have been made by the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries. We are in favor of an initiation of a gradual disarmament as soon as possible on the basis of equality and equal security, because, in our opinion, this can lead to total disarmament and a subsequent disbanding of military blocs.

[Interviewer] What is your opinion on the situation in Central America?

[Alvarez] We are convinced that everything must be done to halt the U.S. policy of intervention in Central America and to struggle for a peaceful settlement of the problems of the area. U.S. intervention in Central America threatens not only the countries directly affected by it, but Mexico and the other Latin American countries as well, for if Washington intervenes so freely in the domestic affairs of other countries, it can, in the same way, also attack us at any time. For this very reason, we actively participate in the movement of solidarity with -- for instance -- Nicaragua and El Salvador. We assume an active role in the development of a foreign policy of the Mexican Government in this direction. We strive to contribute to bringing about, with our government's participation, a peaceful settlement in Central America and a cessation of U.S. intervention. The Cancun Declaration of the Contadora Group provides the best basis for a peaceful settlement of the Central American crisis.

[Interviewer] On what occasion are you now visiting the Soviet Union as head of a delegation?

[Alvarez] We were invited quite some time ago, and the purpose of our visit is to exchange views with our hosts on the most pressing issues of the international situation, as well as the Central American situation. Identical views prevail between the two parties on the most important issues in this respect. Another goal of our visit is to tighten relations between the two parties, although they are continuous ones and are developing on the basis of mutual respect. A party like ours needs relations with other parties and, on the occasions of mutual visits, we strive to acquaint ourselves with the life and policy of other parties and define our own views. Our present visit to Moscow also was very useful in this respect.

GOVERNMENT'S PRO-USSR FOREIGN POLICY DECRIED

PA282150 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Nov 83 p 7 A

[Article by Margarita Michelena: "Foreign Policy: What Is Going On?"]

[Text] No one in his right mind can deny that our foreign policy appears to be designed for people other than Mexicans, who -- whether we wish to admit it or not -- held the one and only plebiscite in their history during Pope John Paul's visit. That unquestionable expression of what the majority of our people think and feel should suffice to show whoever governs us how things should work both at home and abroad -- that is, of course, if it is really a government of the people and for the people. The Mexican people are disgusted with the foreign policy that has been pursued by the last three administrations, beginning with Echeverria and his persistent Third World demagoguery.

We Mexicans are not pro-Yankee or anything of the sort. However, the truth is that we still have some common sense. Although we ardently desire to remain free of our northern neighbor's influence, we are equally anxious to keep our distance from the other extreme, and to avoid the friendship -- which is so costly, after all -- of the overseas imperialist and its satellites in Latin America. One could say that the Yankees are very bad. However, our friendship with the USSR has cost us a lot of money, some of which has had to come from the United States, to fill the many holes left by the past two "nationalistic" administrations, whose disastrous efforts concentrated on acquiring immense debts, destroying us as a nation, and, in short, making us more dependent than ever on those who can release or tighten their purse strings at will. There can be no dignity without economic independence, as Ingenieros [Argentine writer Jose Ingenieros] has said.

Therefore, the Gringos are the source of the money that the last few regimes squandered, embezzled, and stole, and of the money that we are now using to pay the interest on those debts and to prevent the country from suffering a total economic collapse. Despite all this, when it is time to take sides, instead of ratifying our rejection of all kinds of imperialism, our foreign policy leans without hesitation toward the Russians and their representatives and accomplices in this hemisphere, countries that cost us so much. It is not clear what popular support the government uses to justify diverting funds -- which must be repaid by us all -- to those who, on closer view and in the final analysis, are our enemies and help to cover up the fact that we are being tricked by that other imperialism, which our Foreign Secretariat does not see as such.

The recent case of Grenada has highlighted the dangerous and bewildering eloquence of Mr Sepulveda Amor (the quasi-Prince Bernardo), who maintained that everything that we saw with our own eyes on television -- just as we witnessed the brutal police beating of the Polish people -- was a case of pure and simple mass hallucination, an illusion, a visual deception, and not what we thought we had seen, before we heard the foreign secretary's wise words, which was a Soviet military satellite, created to work against our peoples in the Caribbean Basin itself. The ultramodern weapons that we saw were not weapons at all, but ingenious vitamin-dispensing machines. The boxes at the "Cuban Economic Office" that we, being collectively hypnotized, thought to be full of bullets contained only vitamins.

It is also untrue that the Grenadian people themselves told the Yankees where to find the weapons and the foreigners who had pre-invaded the island, as the television reported. The return of the Cubans to their own country and the 21-gun-salute welcome they received was also a "deceptive syllogism in color"; it was one of those visual tricks that the Hindus call "maya," an ocean of deception created by our own treacherous eyes. Mr Sepulveda Amor has no proof of the things that we saw; therefore, what we saw is as unreal as a fall in the rate of inflation.

There is no doubt that the quasi-Prince Bernardo is one of the wise men in the administration. And it is beyond doubt that his passionate statements in favor of the real truth come opportunely, at a time when Finance Minister Jesus Silva-Herzog is embarking on another leg of his never-ending efforts to renegotiate our foreign debt, which would have never reached its present overwhelming dimensions had we not suffered the misrule of two "nationalist" squanderers. One was a messianic pursuer of international honor and decorations, and the other ran the most frivolous administration to have held absolute power over an ill-fated nation in centuries.

In sum, we can see that this administration's outstanding financial policies are overshadowed by its poor foreign policy. One thing is sure: No one would want to be in Mr Jesus Silva-Herzog's shoes right now. He must perform a distressing dance to ward off ruin, in step with the perfect tune played by Prince Bernardo, the only one who knows the absolute truth about what took place in Grenada. He is the sage who will have to be consulted in the future on what is true and what is false. When he has no proof of something, it will be false.

NEW 2,000 PESO NOTE TO ENTER CIRCULATION

FL282236 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2045 GMT 27 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 27 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Bank of Mexico announced today the entry into circulation tomorrow, Monday, of a new 2,000 peso note, a denomination that is being issued for the first time in Mexico.

ARGENTINE NEWS AGENCY TO OPERATE IN COUNTRY

FL282356 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1810 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Latin American News Service (SELAN) will soon begin to operate in this capital with the purpose of establishing a cultural and economical information network that will contribute to mutual understanding between Argentina and Mexico.

Alfredo A. Llariona, director of that Argentine news agency, made the announcement. He added that all that was lacking for the information service to begin immediate operation is the permission of the Mexican Secretariat of Communication and Transportation.

He explained that SELAN is an international news agency which operates in some Latin American countries such as Uruguay, Brazil, Peru, Colombia, and Venezuela, and the proposal is to let people in Mexico know what is going on in Argentina now that the country has held elections.

Llariona said that Mexican journalism is well known and respected in Argentina, and for that reason the people and Government of the South American country are very interested in establishing informing links with Mexico.

BRIEFS

PETROCHEMICAL PRODUCTION CAPACITY -- Pemex Director General Mario Ramon Beteta has said that Mexico has the capacity to export various oil derivatives that will bring in foreign currency and maintain the Pemex refining plant's position as 12th in the world. He added that Mexico can produce 15 million tons of basic petrochemical products a year. The country already produces 40 such products, and is self-sufficient in 25 of them. To process some of these products Pemex has plants located across the country. Of these, the Pajaritos, Morelos, Tabasco I, and Dos Docas complexes are the most important. Exports of petrochemical and other oil products in 1983 are expected to reach \$1,175,000,000. [Summary] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 26 Nov 83 PA]

UNESCO ELECTIONS -- Paris, 5 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican secretary of education, Jesus Reyes Heróles, today was elected member of the UNESCO Executive Council during the 22d meeting of the General Assembly. Mexico (103 votes), Guyana (115 votes), and Venezuela (88 votes) were elected to three of the nine posts vacant in the Latin American and Caribbean Group of the UNESCO Executive Council. [Excerpt] [Mexico City NOTIMEX 2100 GMT 7 Nov 83 FL]

DE LA ESPRIELLA FACES 'IMMIGRATION BOMB' PROBLEM

PA290409 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Interview with Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella by an unidentified reporter, held in the town of Chorrera on 28 November -- recorded]

[Excerpts] President Ricardo de la Espriella today issued a call to all Panamanians, asking everyone to face the so-called immigration bomb with a high sense of responsibility and to join the search for a solution. The president recognized the efforts being exerted at the national level to solve our local and national problems. However, we must not turn our backs on the needs of brother countries. President de la Espriella revealed his concern, and spoke firmly:

[Begin recording] [De la Espriella] We must face the problem responsibly. We are preparing ourselves, since this is a fact, and it is practically impossible to avoid because of the tragedy being experienced by our brothers in Central America.

By organizing and preparing ourselves, we will be able to handle this problem in a planned and disciplined way. I might add that we will have to assimilate the groups that "infiltrate" our borders, because we cannot avoid this. We must relocate these Central American brothers, who are suffering such a tragedy, in the most unpopulated regions of Panama which need to be developed.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, does this mean that we will have to reorganize our development programs at the ministry level? Is this correct?

[De la Espriella] Yes, we have to reorganize practically everything in Panama because of the crisis we are experiencing. For example, when a hurricane strikes, even if you do not expect it, you must face reality. This problem was not in our plans but it is now. We must work so that all Panamanians, especially the country's productive sector, find a solution to these problems in an organized way.

[Reporter] Would this include recourse to international organizations for aid?

[De la Espriella] Yes, definitely, because this is not an isolated problem. We are recipients of something we have not created, and we have tried to prevent its taking place in our country. Therefore, we are talking about a regional problem, a hemispheric problem. If you want to view it from a broader perspective, this is a worldwide problem, because it is taking place in many areas of the world. International organizations must help us face the problem because they have the resources. We are talking with international organizations, requesting that they pay attention to this problem and help us solve it. [end recording]

BRIEFS

1984 BUDGET FIGURES -- Manalco Solis, minister of planning and economic policy, has reported the signing of three loans with the World Bank. The first, for \$60.2 million, is destined for structural adjustments in public finances; the second, for \$9 million, is for the development of the livestock industry; and the third, for \$5 million, is for technical development. The minister also revealed that the national budget for 1984 will be some \$2.5 billion; \$2 billion will come from the public sector and \$500 million from loans. [Summary] [Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 25 Nov 83 pp 1, 16 PA]

COSTA RICACOMMUNIST ADVISERS SAID RUNNING OPERATIONS CENTER

PA291414 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 21 Nov 83 p 12

[Excerpts] Communist elements of various nationalities are using a ranch located in Chimurria de Los Chiles as a center of operations for discovering anti-Sandinist sympathizers. According to available information, the elements dedicated to this activity are trained and supervised by members of the North Korean military.

The ranch being used covers about 40 hectares and is completely isolated, facilitating the communists' actions. It has been determined that Guatemalans, Salvadorans, Nicaraguans, and a few Costa Ricans are being trained and directed there by the North Koreans. There is even talk of a possible connection with Spain's Basque Fatherland and Liberty.

The appropriate authorities have been notified of this situation involving foreign and local communists and North Korean advisers.

EL SALVADORDEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES ARMED FORCES' PLANS

PA290440 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 26 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] The Armed Forces will make changes in their counterinsurgency tactics and operational systems next week. This was announced yesterday at noon by Defense Minister Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova in an interview with Salvadoran journalists at the conclusion of a protocol act held in solidarity with the Argentine Armed Forces. General Vides Casanova explained that the changes mean the Army's corps will launch a great number of offensives in December to nullify the activities of the subversives, who have been causing damage in different parts of the country, particularly in the central and eastern regions.

Asked if this will be the last offensive, the minister replied: "No, that would be equivalent to saying that we will not launch others. I repeat, we will launch many offensives against the guerrilla groups."

On the overall status of the Armed Forces' struggle against terrorism and subversion, Gen Vides Casanova said that the Army is continuing its efforts to defend the people's interests against communist aggression. He admitted that the Armed Forces have sometimes been in a disadvantageous situation during the struggle, but that they have also had the advantage, as in cases where guerrilla groups have been effectively evicted by the troops.

On other subjects the defense minister said that the Armed Forces will respect the new constitution and anything derived from it. He said that the Constituent Assembly's work has been tiring, but that they have finally concluded a very important task giving the people what they sought. He also said that the establishment of a date for presidential and vice presidential elections was a wise move, and indicated that the Armed Forces reiterate their apolitical stand and their respect for the people's will, expressed through suffrage.

On the issues still pending at the Constituent Assembly, Gen Vides Casanova said he could not express his point of view because this would amount to providing advance information on things on which the Assembly has not yet issued a ruling.

D'AUBUISSON RESIGNS, NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT

PA292229 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 28 Nov 83 p 1

[Excerpts] EL MUNDO has learned from reliable political sources that "Major Roberto D'Aubuisson has resigned his post as president of the Constituent Assembly, and was subsequently nominated as presidential candidate by the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, following the signing of the new political constitution."

According to reports, Maj D'Aubuisson has resigned, as he had promised a few months ago when he said that "he would submit his resignation as president of the Constituent Assembly after signing the new political constitution." Deputies Francisco Merino and Hugo Barrera will also resign. The latter has been mentioned as a certain ARENA vice presidential candidate.

According to the sources, after the resignation of D'Aubuisson, the Assembly will proceed to elect a new board of directors for the Legislative Assembly, which will then no longer be a constituent assembly, in accordance with the powers granted by Decree No 3 of the Constituent Assembly.

Meanwhile, Jose Napoleon Duarte, presidential candidate for the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, told EL MUNDO that his party has not yet decided who its vice presidential candidate will be, but that he has recommended Fidel Chavez Mena, the incumbent foreign minister, as his running mate. Duarte did not attach much importance to the fact that ARENA has nominated Maj Roberto D'Aubuisson, and asserted that the PDC will win the election.

Regarding these two parties -- ARENA and PDC -- spokesmen of the National Conciliation Party have said that they have never claimed to be "Social Christians," but a party "with a centrist ideology, to counter the radical positions of these two parties."

PEACE COMMISSION OFFICIAL CITED ON EFFORTS

PA290237 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Interview with Francisco Quinonez, member of the Salvadoran Government's Peace Commission, by an unidentified reporter, "last weekend", place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Quinonez] The Peace Commission, as all Salvadorans know, has made a genuine effort to hold dialogue and a genuine effort to search for peace through the democratic process. The Peace Commission has not stopped its efforts in this regard, on the contrary, it is promoting these efforts. Only yesterday -- Thursday -- the commission held a meeting to find a way to reaffirm the criteria that it has been considering and studying over past weeks, with the objective of pursuing the peace program. As we all know -- and we, the members of the Peace Commission are perhaps most aware of this -- I repeat, as we all know, peace is perhaps the most sacred gift that a person can have. Why not say it -- in El Salvador peace does not exist. Therefore, it should be one of our most desired objectives to achieve peace as soon as possible. With this objective in mind, we, the members of the Peace Commission, feel that participation in the upcoming electoral process is an enormous and great opportunity for the armed groups to abandon their policy of destruction, to put aside their attitude of vengeance and the search for power through violence, and, instead seek the path of peace, the path of democratic, free, just, and honest elections, so that the people can determine, as judges -- I repeat, the people are the supreme judges in this case -- the leadership of the fatherland's destiny.

In this regard we eagerly continue our search for unity and will eagerly continue to search for the unity of all the sectors in the democratic process. There is no alternative.

This is the path that all Salvadorans sought on 28 March, and with their eager interest in searching for this path, they voted, even under guerrilla gun fire. They thereby demonstrated that they want democracy. In any case, this is what the Peace Commission demands of all who want democracy -- that they protect it, that they struggle for it, and that they participate in the democratic process. Consequently, we cannot do less than encourage and pursue this path, and to pursue this as a solution of the problem of the war imposed on El Salvador and on all the people.

[Unidentified reporter] Since your last meeting in Bogota, Colombia, with leftist leaders, has there been contact with the guerrillas, particularly as regards the meeting that the leftist leaders held this week with the Costa Rican president, in which they said that they will not meet again with Richard Stone?

[Quinonez] No, we have engaged in a series of activities. The Peace Commission, as you know, does not only speak of dialogue. It is carrying out a series of activities and engaging in a variety of efforts that, although not publicised and not made known, are obviously a part of the work that the commission should carry out in order to achieve peace. As specifically regards contacts with the guerrilla groups, we have had none since the last meeting in Colombia.

[Reporter] When has the PPS [Salvadoran Popular Party] scheduled its convention to elect presidential candidates for the next elections?

[Quinonez] That is a very interesting question and, in passing, let me say that we appreciate your asking it very much, because in a way it enables us, through your stations, to reach all the interior of the country, thus reporting -- to put it this way -- through the media, to all our members and all our sympathizers, and, of course, to all the organizational groups in the party that are fully aware of this event. To specifically answer your questions, the national directorate of the party has designated 18 December as the date, with the convention to begin at 0800 or 0900 -- I'm not certain of the exact time.

CONTINUING CLASHES, MILITARY OPERATIONS REPORTED

Antiguerrilla Operation Continues

PA300325 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Report by Ramiro Paredes]

[Text] San Vicente -- A large-scale antiguerrilla operation continued yesterday in the northern zone. Last Thursday, Army troops launched a large-scale antiguerrilla operation in the northern zone of San Vicente Department. It continued yesterday, particularly in the areas frequented by FMLN guerrillas, according to a report received here today.

Yesterday, between 1500 and 1600, artillery units were firing mortars against the northern zones from positions located in the vicinity of the eastern penitentiary. The artillery fire was intended to support the troops that have been advancing since dawn yesterday, near Santa Clara and San Esteban Catarina. This information was revealed by a judicial official who came here from the northeastern area of San Vicente. He said that it is possible the operation was planned by the Armed Forces because the guerrilla groups had been in control of the town since 2 November, when Army troops withdrew.

The source, whose name is being withheld for security reasons, said the subversives guarded the town night and day by working in shifts, and purchased food in local stores. The supplies were later taken to subversive camps on horseback.

He added that on 24 November, when a group of approximately 30 leftists were lunching in the municipal market, some 300 soldiers of the Ramon Belloso Battalion suddenly arrived. However, they were seen by a boy, who shouted: The soldiers are coming! The subversives immediately hid behind some trenches and a fierce clash ensued, which lasted approximately 30 minutes. The clash took place near the northern side of the marketplace and the municipal offices. Several horses the subversives were going to use to carry their supplies to the camps were killed during the clash.

A woman, identified as Maria Duran, was wounded. It is possible that some rebels were also wounded, because much blood was found later in the trenches. The source added that the subversives fled toward the north, toward the areas where the Army is fighting today, in an attempt to evict the FMLN rebels.

COPREFA Notes Morazan Clashes

PA290442 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, on 28 November 1983, in San Salvador]

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, reports that terrorist columns were surprised by Armed Forces units near Torola, San Fernando, Guarumal, Agua Zarca, El Ocotillo, El Picacho, and Tortolico, in Morazan Department. The Armed Forces units were from the Morazan Battalion, which, with artillery and Air Force support, inflicted heavy losses on FMLN terrorists yesterday.

The action was carried out so precisely and swiftly that the extremist hordes had no time to prepare defenses. Instead, they were forced to flee in disarray in every direction.

Meanwhile, also in Morazan Department, the Arce Battalion seized 2 M-79 grenade launchers, 1 M-16 rifle, and 1 mortar from the terrorists.

Border Residents Attacked

PA290457 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Reports received from residents of Guaritas and neighboring villages on the Honduran border state that soldiers, pretending to be guerrillas, are attacking the residents. We call on our brothers in the Honduran towns to denounce these actions carried out by Suazo Cordova's puppet regime.

Other reports received from Chalatenango state that on the morning of 27 November an A-7 U.S.-made aircraft dropped approximately 15 rockets on the towns of El Sicahuite, Los Naranjos, El Potrero, and (Plan del Barro), Las Vueltas jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department. The A-7 aircraft that attacked these peasant towns came from Honduras. The Salvadoran dictatorship does not have this type of aircraft. Recently, the Honduran regime was supplied with these A-7 aircraft by Ronald Reagan.

We condemn the air attacks against the peasant towns and denounce the violations of airspace by aircraft sent from Honduras by the U.S. Army to massacre innocent Salvadoran residents.

FMLN Scores Regime Activities

PA300323 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Martí in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT
30 Nov 83

[Text] Pursuing its genocidal policy against civilians, the puppet Army, on Yankee advice, has continued its indiscriminate bombing of towns in Cuscatlan Department. We have received a report from Companero Rogelio Godínez, our correspondent on the Central Front, who has told us how the Army is using the planes that Ronald Reagan provides the dictatorship. It is sending them in a cowardly fashion to attack defenseless towns. Here is the report:

The pro-imperialist regime bombed Jutiapa on 21 November. At noon a push-and-pull plane and an A-37 aircraft dropped bombs on civilians, killing Jose Rocha, 40, Domingo Melendez Munoz, 14, and Arturo Cantames, 37. Eduardo Menendez and Israel Gamez suffered shrapnel wounds in their legs. [Passage indistinct]

We ask all humanitarian organizations and the International Red Cross Committee to investigate this. This is not the first time that the pilots of Salvadoran Air Force planes, light aircraft, and helicopters have massacred our defenseless people.

FMLN COMMANDER VIEWS FOREIGN INTERVENTION

PA291816 Mexico City EL DIA Spanish 17 Nov 83 p 17

[Interview with FMLN Commander Trinidad, member of the Political Commission of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers, by Julio Castel in Mexico City -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: You said a while ago that foreign intervention would be defeated in El Salvador. Although it is difficult to do so, could a time limit be set with regard to the defeat of such an invasion? Moreover, what would an invasion by CONDECA [Central American Defense Council] or by CONDECA and Marines mean politically and militarily to the FMLN? How would it readjust its tactics?

Answer: The FMLN has been acting on the premise of the two possibilities you have mentioned: that CONDECA would invade first and then the U.S. Army, or that both would invade at the same time. The latter is the strongest possibility. If the Hondurans and Guatemalans are sent in, they will become dangerously bogged down and will do nothing; they don't have the military capability to effect a substantial change in the correlation of forces.

For obvious reasons I cannot comment on what the FMLN plans to do insofar as changing tactics. What I can say is that any intervention in El Salvador or Nicaragua would regionalize the war. It would definitely open new political and military stages in the region.

Defeating the invasion would be a long-term proposition. We are aware that the retreat we would necessarily have to make could create the impression that we had been defeated. We would not face the invaders as we have already learned enough about fighting not to do so. However, we have the capability to regionalize the war.

Question: Would that mean, perhaps, that the rules of the game would be violated?

That the FMLN would no longer confine itself to Salvadoran territory and would fight -- so to speak -- in Honduras and Guatemala, or....

Answer: Yes. Perhaps more than to fight, we would find ourselves forced to use other national territories. We are not interested in fighting the Honduran Government -- this must be clear. Obviously, all respect regarding borders and the use of mechanisms would be destroyed -- up to the degree they destroy it, because if the Honduran Army invades, we will be entitled to -- and will -- hit them deep behind their rear guard.

We have not done this yet because we are not interested in regionalizing the war. The one who would regionalize it is imperialism, because this is part of its strategy and its counterrevolutionary conception. We have publicly and righteously stressed the need for a political solution.

Question: Have the FMLN and its member organizations taken into account the possibility of a direct U.S. military intervention in their strategy?

Answer: When analyzing the FMLN's strategy one realizes that it has always taken into account the possibility of an invasion. Obviously, it depends on the correlation of forces within the United States and El Salvador. At times the possibility has appeared stronger than others.

The FMLN has been preparing for the intervention fundamentally by creating awareness among its militants. Now, in view of the international situation, the internal military standoff, and the bourgeoisie's inability to settle its internal conflicts -- for instance, the Assembly has been unable to complete the drafting of its constitution -- the degree of the controversies during the past few months has led the FMLN to look more closely at the imminence of an intervention.

Grenada has brought the matter even further to the fore. We cannot predict the time, but I can tell you that we are prepared. Let me make this clear: The preparation is more political than anything else; it involves creating awareness among our militants and the masses; it does not boil down to a tactical idea of what to do militarily. This is being done too, but I cannot discuss it publicly now.

Question: In the last few months, thanks to the efforts of the Contadora Group, a direct U.S. military intervention in Central America, and particularly in Nicaragua, has been prevented. In the event of an invasion of El Salvador, what role do you think the Contadora Group would play?

Answer: We think that the Contadora Group is an appropriate channel to seek a negotiated political solution to the crisis in El Salvador and, in general, to Central America's problems. We think that the Contadora Group could play a key role if the United States decided to intervene, particularly in the months following an invasion, when things will bog down. The Contadora Group's potential will be seen at that time.

The Contadora Group has already contributed much and will yield a bit more, because it provides a kind of barrier to North American intervention.

Question: During this interview I have felt that certain diplomatic activity has been relegated to a backseat, specifically the open and unconditional dialogue with the government that was proposed by the FMLN, which looked likely at one time through U.S. Ambassador Richard Stone. Has the search for a solution through dialogue been discarded?

In other words, isn't the dialogue proposed by Stone a viable mechanism for resolving the Salvadoran crisis?

Answer: The FMLN has contended quite clearly that the dialogue proposed by the United States through Stone and promoted by the Salvadoran Government through the Peace Commission actually had all the earmarks of a political coverup maneuver while they developed the military option. In view of this, the FMLN assumed the attitude of [agreeing to] engage in the dialogue so that it could expose it as a maneuver, a coverup. I think we achieved that.

Knowing that it was a maneuver, it would have been a mistake to reject the dialogue with Stone or the Peace Commission, which has no power. We thought it was necessary to participate. They wanted to cosponsor the dialogue, which had always been our aim. Thus, the dialogue was held. I think that thanks to this we are able to take the political initiative again, when we talked with the Peace Commission a number of contradictions arose in the country. The proposal we took to Bogota that a public debate be held and a broad-based government be established prior to holding elections achieved its purpose: to create contradictions and provoke debate.

The FMLN has continued asking, even demanding, that the dialogue and the negotiation be continued. However, we know they are not prepared to agree.

HAVANA NOTES SALVADORAN ELECTIONS PLAN

PA252054 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] The convening of elections in El Salvador at a time when the political constitution has not been completed and when there is no electoral law or voter registry is the result of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's urgent need to be able to certify to the U.S. Congress that there has been an alleged improvement in the human rights situation in that Central American country.

This is reported by SALPRESS, which also notes that one of the candidates is former Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, president of the so-called Constituent Assembly in which he represents the Nationalist Republican Alliance. Another candidate, the news agency reports, is Presidency Minister Jose Guerrero, who would run as the National Conciliation Party candidate. SALPRESS recalls that D'Aubuisson has been accused of having murdered several persons, including Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, and that the former major admitted to the Kissinger Commission that he has links with the death squads and that the death squads have a close relationship with the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

According to the other reports, the regime's Armed Forces have launched another counter-insurgency operation in which, more than 5,000 troops from elite battalions, supported by the Air Force, are participating to recover control in the country's northeastern region.

GUATEMALA

SISNIEGA DENIES PARTICIPATION IN COUP PLANS

PA290330 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1726 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 28 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Anticommunist leader Lionel Sisniega Otero today denied allegations that he participated in a military plot against the government of General Oscar Mejia Victores.

The Sunday supplement of the conservative newspaper PRENSA LIBRE yesterday pointed out that Sisniega Otero and General Hector Lopez Fuentes, former Army chief of staff, were the leaders of a possible "coup" against the present government. The report does not however quote any sources and it was not "written in a responsible fashion" according to Sisniega Otero.

Sisniega Otero, Director of the Anti-communist Unification Party, PUA -- which is composed of dissidents from the ultra-leftist National Liberation Movement, MLN -- also said that the article was "totally slanderous and irresponsible with evil inclinations." He further indicated that he will initiate legal proceedings against the newspaper's directors, since the article which accuses him "does not even bear a signature."

The newspaper article, published under the headline "Politics in Guatemala" points out that Sisniega Otero and Lopez Fuentes began planning a coup a month after Mejia Victores assumed power.

PRENSA LIBRE's information coincides with rumors concerning the possibility of a coup d'etat that circulated here when General Lopez Fuentes was removed from his post in the Army and appointed Ambassador to Italy. Lopez Fuentes was removed from the post of Army chief of staff last 21 October, political observers consider this an official confirmation of his participation in a coup attempt. The same sources also indicated that his removal from the post of chief of staff was the result of his links with ultra-leftist groups.

The rumors of a new coup d'etat gathered momentum last week when the Christian Democrats warned Guatemalans about the possibility of a coup. However, Mejia Victores personally told the news media -- in a luncheon held this weekend -- that he would attend the inauguration ceremony of Raul Alfonsin, President-elect of Argentina, because "he trusted his people and his Army."

Lionel Sisniega Otero remained underground during the last months of General Efraim Rios Montt's government, after the president accused him of participating in a conspiracy against the regime. The anti-communist leader also participated in the coup d'etat that took Rios Montt to the presidency on 23 March 1982. He was seen -- carrying weapons -- at the government palace with the military officers who participated in the coup.

ESCUINTLA RESIDENTS FRIGHTENED BY KIDNAPPINGS

PA252247 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 25 Nov 83 p 6

[Article by Ruben Farias]

[Text] Escuintla -- The wave of kidnappings has continued in this department, spreading fear and uncertainty among residents who are observing how groups of heavily armed individuals take men, women and children in broad daylight away to unknown destinations.

The most recent cases were the kidnappings committed yesterday in Hacienda Vieja of El Salto. Armed men took Noel Escobedo and Jaime Blanco Ruano, 13, in El Recreo neighborhood. In that same town, Cesar Augusto Blanco, the victim's father, reported the case to the police, and asked that any information on the whereabouts of his son be given to the departmental police.

These two cases have been added to similar ones reported in the past few days. Neighbors are thus afraid of going out and of wandering far from home. They are afraid of being kidnapped in the streets, and some have even been taken out of their homes.

HONDURASPRESIDENT SUAZO ADDRESSES NATIONAL CONGRESS

PA291846 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Speech by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova at the close of the second regular session of the National Congress, 28 November 1983 -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Under the present circumstances in which the world is struggling in a whirlpool of uncertainty, anxiety, controversy, and confrontation, the fact that a country like ours that is striving to break the chains of underdevelopment while remaining within the legal norms defining the conduct of governors and governed is cause for encouragement. This should strengthen our aspirations to make this land of ours an altar for our highest purpose of attaining the goals of individual dignity and collective well-being. To have attained a constitutional government in a time such as the one I have just described has not been easy.

We have been threatened, and we continue to feel threatened. In view of this, we have had no alternative but to adopt appropriate measures for our own defense, within the exercise of the sovereign rights that are characteristic of every independent state, to safeguard the fundamental spiritual values we are obliged to protect in order to avoid becoming caught up in the painful tragedy of violence and anarchy.

At no time have we intended, nor do we ever intend to damage Honduras' sovereignty, which is sacred to us and our people and was sacred to the founders of our nation and our heroes. We will never trade off our country's honor, because if we did, we would be renouncing our status as citizens and would be evading the responsibility that the Honduran people entrusted us with at the polls as evidence of their commitment to the achievement of a Honduras worthy of our respect. We will never adopt such an attitude, because we will never renounce our status as free men, by both political conviction and our patriotic upbringing.

Central America is a geopolitical area that, because of its strategic location and because of the conflicts occurring there, has become a cause for international tension and concern. Historically, culturally, and geographically, and traditionally, Honduras is an integral part of Central America, a region shaken by political violence and social conflict. Our country is therefore committed to an inescapable duty, as I noted when I assumed office as the president of this republic: Honduras does not intend to become the arbiter of the expectations, anxieties, and hopes of the region, because that is not its role. But it does hope, while observing the principles of self-determination and nonintervention, to be a factor of balance and harmony in the search for a common destiny. Today I reiterate the role that our country seeks to play, because Honduras does not aspire to a hegemonic role in this troubled region, but to be a balancing factor contributing to the achievement of a stable peace based on democratic and pluralistic institutions; a peace in which the peoples' aspirations are not smothered by the ignominious offense of enslavement and shameful totalitarianism.

Taking this role into consideration, we have always struggled, and will continue to struggle for peace in Central America, for honorable agreements that will lead us to peaceful coexistence within the framework of an overall regional solution based on understandings that we reach together in order to reap the benefits of that peace for which we are all urgently clamoring, for democracy that must be applied throughout the Central American region, and for security, which is a basic requirement to guarantee our common values and representative institutions and to defend our dignity as a free and sovereign nation.

For that same reason we have supported and will continue to support all the efforts of friendly nations, such as the efforts of the Contadora Group, directed toward the attainment of an overall regional solution that will put an end to fratricidal battles and help establish complete democracy in all the Central American nations, that democracy is the setting needed to reach economic and social development within a framework of cooperation based on mutual respect and interdependence, with the conviction that Central American problems must be solved by Central Americans themselves.

PRESIDENT SUAZO SURVEYS CENTRAL AMERICAN SCENE

PM272031 Madrid ABC in Spanish 23 Nov pp 56-57

[Interview with Honduran President Suazo Cordova by Alfredo Semprun Guillen in Tegucigalpa -- no date given]

[Excerpt] Question: Mr President, the Republic of Honduras is carrying out a clear democratic process. Do you believe that the reality of that effort and what it represents are receiving support from Europe and are being fully appreciated?

Answer: I believe that the Honduran reality has gradually begun to gain ground in Europe. However, the existence of an obvious campaign of disinformation has for a long time distorted the reality of our democratization.

In Sandinism's early stages, it was believed that there would be a pluralist government in Nicaragua, respecting human right and defending freedom. That hope, which proved vain, created great enthusiasm for the revolution and temporarily obscured the Honduran people's genuine success in building a legitimate, open political system, which was initially distorted by propaganda. However, that situation is changing, and I believe that it is now clear to all who look honestly, who favor democracy, and who consciously commit themselves to totalitarianism.

Struggle for Freedom

Question: Haven't the joint defense measures with the United States been detrimental to Honduras and to its external image?

Answer: I reiterate that there is an orchestrated campaign, not only against our country but also against our sister country Costa Rica. However, the public in the hemisphere and in Europe is beginning to see clearly, and, except for those who like oppressive models out of demagoguery or affinity, the vast majority of citizens have begun to support those of us who are struggling for freedom.

Question: What role do the Armed Forces play in Honduras' domestic politics?

Answer: The Armed Forces, believe me, are part of the democratic government. They are performing a professional and patriotic task under the rule of the Constitution and the authority of the president of the republic, who is, moreover, commander in chief of the Army. There is absolute unity between the civilian and military components of the government, and the Armed Forces' respect for our lawful institutions is an example to the region and to the continent.

Reactivation of CONDECA

Question: Three questions seem obvious at present: What motives led your country to propose the reactivation of the Central American Defense Council [CONDECA]? How do you interpret the Costa Rican stance on the Central American problem? And what conditions do you deem essential for a peaceful and lasting agreement with Nicaragua?

Answer: The higher Central American Defense Council, which we know as CONDECA, was essentially reactivated in order to enable the peoples of the region who wish to live in freedom to strengthen their defense in the face of Nicaragua's totalitarian threat. The Sandinist war machine, of clear Soviet and Cuban allegiance, has about 120,000 men under arms, including regular troops, militiamen, and reservists, not to mention the Cuban "advisers," the Basque Homeland and Liberty "experts," the PLO technicians, and other similar groups that specialize in subversion and terrorism.

The sum total of the Armed Forces of Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala -- since Costa Rica has no army -- barely numbers 60,000 men. This gives an idea of the real danger that we face and makes clear the urgent need for us to unite in order to protect democracy wherever it now exists and to promote it in those countries where it has been temporarily eclipsed.

Effective Pluralism

You also asked me about the Costa Rica stance and about the conditions for peace with Nicaragua. It is easy. Costa Rica is currently well aware of the Red threat. That is why it has firmly supported the efforts of the other Central American countries to achieve a global and regional solution to the crisis involving us, which is undoubtedly threatening to wreck the process of democratization. Honduras and Costa Rica are proceeding hand in hand in this effort, and if we secure the international community's active solidarity, the likelihood of success against underdevelopment and oppression will increase significantly.

As for Nicaragua, all that is required to resolve the conflict between Sandinism and the other countries of the area is for the Managua regime to keep the promises which it made to its people and which it confirmed to the OAS in 1979: free elections, real and effective pluralism, respect for human rights, full exercise of freedom of expression and religion, and, in a word, democracy. However, it does not appear that the political will exists among Nicaragua's current politicomilitary leaders to carry out that original blueprint, which both Hondurans and the international community firmly supported at the time.

Reduce Unemployment

Question: Does Nicaragua really threaten Central America's future, Mr President? Couldn't it become an isolated process?

Answer: There is no doubt that the violence unleashed by Soviet imperialism in the area has created an atmosphere of high instability driving away investors. Nevertheless, that fear is beginning to subside, and with the implementation of the Caribbean Basin initiative and other similar efforts, our countries will resume the path of development.

Question: Does Honduras' economic situation show signs of recovery?

Answer: The democratic government has made an extraordinary effort as regards public expenditure. It has created a mystique of work and honesty, and it is struggling steadily to achieve economic recovery. For the present we have guaranteed the parity of our exchange rate with the dollar, averting a devaluation that would have had dramatic consequences. Corruption has been reduced to a minimum, and we are struggling for its final eradication. We are working, in cooperation with free enterprise, to mobilize domestic and foreign investment, with a view to reducing unemployment.

Nicaraguan Dogmatism

Question: Finally, Mr President, a question that is of especial interest to Spanish readers: How do you interpret the Spanish Government's stance toward the Managua regime?

Answer: It is a rule of politics and international law not to express value judgments on other states' sovereign decisions on matters which are strictly their province and responsibility. I will not, as a president elected by his people, break that rule. But ... the hope that burns in our hearts and minds is that all democratic governments which at some point felt dazzled by a revolution which at first announced freedom and afterward engendered oppression, intolerance, and dogmatism, will reflect critically on what is happening in Central America and will ask themselves honestly whether they would wish for their own people what is happening to the people of Nicaragua.

A frank and objective reply, based on the values which inspire coexistence in the Western countries, will tell each leader whether or not the time has come to support Honduras, Costa Rica, and the other nations of the isthmus which, despite the violence rending them, are heading heroically toward democracy and freedom.

ORTEGA LETTER TO SUAZO ON CONDECA CITED

PA290411 Tegucigalpa TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Edwin Zablah, Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras, on Friday delivered a letter from Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega to President Roberto Suazo Cordova, through the Foreign Secretariat. In his note, Ortega states that any effort to reactivate CONDECA [Central American Defense Council] without the participation of Nicaragua "is illegal."

According to the note, Article 25 of the treaty that created CONDECA specifies that "resolutions should be adopted unanimously, without harming any of the member countries," Edwin Zablah said in an interview with TIEMPO. The diplomat refused to provide any details, but said that President Roberto Suazo Cordova should have full knowledge by now of the contents of the letter, which was delivered to Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica.

Ambassador Zablah did say that in the letter Nicaragua reiterates its willingness to solve problems through diplomatic means, and added that his government believes that "any effort to reactivate CONDECA without the participation of Nicaragua or of any other member country is illegal and arbitrary." Zablah noted that, Commander Ortega clearly states in his letter to President Suazo Cordova "the serious concern felt by the Nicaraguan Government and people about the illegal and arbitrary reactivation of CONDECA." Zablah added that there are "plans to provide legal and political justification for a possible attack on Nicaragua" by means of CONDECA.

RETIRED OFFICERS CALLED BACK TO ACTIVE DUTY

PA270411 Paris AFP in Spanish 2019 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 26 Nov (AFP) -- Official sources have announced that high-ranking Army officers who were "retired" following the recent military reorganization have been reincorporated into the Honduran Armed Forces. Colonel Mario Maldonado, Colonel Leonel Fonseca, Colonel Erick O'Connor, and at least six more officers of the same rank, whose retirement was not totally justified, have been called back to "reinforce the security of the country."

The press, in commenting on the matter, has noted that both President Roberto Suazo Cordova and Genral Gustavo Alvarez Martinez have repeatedly declared that "national security is currently the most important thing, and all measures that reinforce it are valid."

PRESIDENT, OFFICIALS DISCUSS MISSION TO U.S.

PA291924 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The Honduran president met this afternoon with members of the National Security Council which [words indistinct]. It has been learned that this meeting is linked with tomorrow's visit to Washington by the commander of the Armed Forces, who is a member of the Honduran mission that will negotiate U.S. economic aid for 1984. General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez and the foreign secretary are the most important members of the mission. Here is a report by Mario Calix:

President Roberto Suazo Cordova today presided over the approximately 2-hour meeting of the National Security Council at Presidential House. Although the purpose of the meeting was not officially announced, it has been learned that it was held to discuss the (?final details) of the request for military aid that will be presented to U.S. officials. The request will be presented to the Pentagon by Armed Forces Commander Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, who is a member of the special mission leaving for Washington tomorrow in search of financial, military, and technical aid.

The commanders of the Armed Forces gave reports on their areas, and the foreign secretary presented a report on the Contadora Group negotiations and on what the mission he heads will discuss in the United States.

For his part, Colonel Daniel Bali Castillo, commander of the Public Security Force [FUSEP] and a member of the Security Council, said that FUSEP is not responsible for the disappearance of individuals whose names were recently published. On previous occasions, FUSEP has maintained that some of the missing persons are members of subversive groups who are in Cuba and Nicaragua and whose relatives are worried about them, because for obvious reasons they do not tell them where they are going.

NICARAGUABORGE ON POSSIBLE DEPARTURE OF CUBAN ADVISERS

PA291932 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1903 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, 29 Nov (EFE) -- Nicaragua is willing to negotiate the withdrawal of the Cuban advisers from its territory, Interior Minister Tomas Borge told French television today. "We can accept the principle of the departure of the Cuban military advisers who are in Nicaragua," Commander Borge stated.

According to official reports, the United States today denied a visa that would permit the Nicaraguan official to tour that country.

Borge added in the interview that "Nicaragua cannot negotiate in any manner with the Somoquist criminals."

Commander Borge also told French television that "the electoral process in Nicaragua will begin in 1984, and that the elections will be held in 1985."

AMBASSADOR REPORTS DENIAL OF U.S. VISA FOR BORGE

PA291915 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] The U.S. State Department has refused to grant a visa to Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez so he could visit the United States.

Companero Antonio Jarquin, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, said the State Department's decision is a political defeat for the Reagan administration. Here are the comments by Ambassador Antonio Jarquin over the telephone from Washington:

[Begin recording] [Jarquin] This morning we talked with the State Department to tell it that if we weren't notified by 1400 of the decision on the visa for Commander Borge and his delegation, the Nicaraguan Government would cancel the trip. About 30 minutes ago, the State Department called to tell us they weren't going to grant the visa. They gave no explanation. That is the situation.

[Unidentified reporter] How do you view this reply by the U.S. Government?

[Jarquin] This reply shows fear. The Reagan administration is afraid that a member of the FSLN National Directorate will come to speak with the U.S. people, to explain the Nicaraguan revolution's viewpoints, since the Reagan administration has spread distorted reports on the reality of the Nicaraguan revolution. Obviously, the fact that a Nicaraguan leader wanted to visit to tell the other side of the story to the U.S. press and people placed the administration in a dilemma. I think the reply that the U.S. Government has been forced to give, denying a visa to a leader of our revolution, is a political defeat for the administration and the position it holds. It is a violation of the North Americans' right to be informed of other viewpoints on a controversial issue like that of Central America.

[Reporter] Do you think any protest will be carried out by U.S. sectors interested in learning about Nicaragua's position through Commander Borge?

[Jarquin] Probably. Yesterday all our phone lines were busy receiving calls from different organizations all over the country, telling us they were exerting pressure on the State Department and complaining about the delay in granting the visa. Yesterday and also today we have been receiving this type of call. We have reports that the State Department offices have had to reply to constant pressures from various political, religious, university, and other nongovernmental sectors that have been calling them. The U.S. Government's undemocratic decision will lead to discontent and repudiation from large and important sectors. [end recording]

Borge Reaction

PA300433 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge has described the U.S. refusal to grant him a visa today as a violation of every international principle. At a press conference the Sandinist leader said that the U.S. decision deprives the U.S. people of an opportunity to learn what is happening in Central American and Nicaragua. The so-called standardbearers of freedom are keeping the U.S. people from learning the truth, Borge noted, while also disclosing that the visa was rejected by President Ronald Reagan himself, citing reliable Washington sources. Borge noted that Nicaragua has never denied a visa to any U.S. official, stressing: Even Reagan can come to this country, and we would let him in.

OBANDO Y BRAVO TURNS DOWN PROTECTION OFFER

PA291500 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Monsignor Miguel Obando y Bravo has turned down the protection offered him by the Interior Ministry, saying that he was deeply grateful to the authorities for their interest in safeguarding his life nonetheless.

Msgr Obando y Bravo made this statement for journalists yesterday while awaiting the arrival of a group of bishops, members of the Venezuelan Episcopal Conference.

Tomas Borge Martinez, commander of the revolution and minister of the interior, recently charged that counterrevolutionary plans exist to carry out attacks on Msgr Obando y Bravo and on various right-wing political leaders, with the idea of blaming the revolution for these attacks in order to create disturbances here.

CARLOS NUNEZ REJECTS TALKS WITH CONTRAS

PA290044 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] State Council President Commander Carlos Nunez, who is also a member of the FSLN National Directorate, has reiterated that the Sandinist government will not hold talks with leaders of the paid assassins, who are being armed and financed by the Reagan administration. He made this statement yesterday during a land distribution ceremony in the village of Satuca, near the Honduran border.

Commander Nunez accused the U.S. Government of trying to blackmail the Nicaraguan authorities into holding dialogue with the counterrevolutionary leaders, who are working for the CIA. Commander Nunez said that the peasants who were taken to Honduras by the Somozist bands can return to Nicaragua and take advantage of the benefits of the agrarian reform. Nunez pointed out to the peasants of Satuca that the Sandinist people's revolution belong to the workers and the peasants, and they will defend the revolution from the criminal aggression that the Reagan administration promotes.

PCDEN LEADER ADVOCATES UNITY FOR DEFENSE

PA291743 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 25 Nov 83 p 12

[Text] Eli Altamirano, Secretary General of the Communist Party of Nicaragua [PCDEN] told the State Council's emergency Special Commission session yesterday: "The PCDEN will rise to the occasion under all circumstances to carry out tasks of unity to defend our homeland and the revolution." The Special Commission was created in response to the possibility that Nicaragua will be attacked by troops from the United States and the region. This commission seeks "to present a single national response to the intervention," Guerilla Commander Leticia Herrera, the Commission president, explained. The Commission is currently holding a series of meetings with representatives of the country's various political parties to learn their views regarding the best way to present a united front in the face of foreign aggression.

In response to a question by the Commission, Altamirano said: "We advocate a peaceful solution to the problems in the country and the region." He added: "We believe that the institutionalization of our revolutionary process must continue, but we must be alert and intensify our training for military defense."

No To a Dialogue With Somozists

Altamirano said that the PCDEN "condemns the national conciliation plan proposed by the Social Christian Party, the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, and the Catholic Church hierarchy, because this proposal attacks the country's sovereignty and fosters meddling by Contadora and the OAS in matters that only Nicaraguans must solve."

The plan, which was announced by the newspaper LA PRENSA some days ago, proposes a dialogue with Somozist counterrevolutionaries.

Altamirano said: "This is precisely what the Reagan administration wants."

The PCDEN leader was also of the opinion that the international policy of the Government Junta deserves support because it has emerged victorious over U.S. efforts.

He added: "We perceive this policy in the framework of the Nonaligned Movement."

In addition to Altamirano, Allan Zambrana and Ariel Bravo were present as PCDEN representatives.

The State Council commission is comprised of Angela Rosa Acevedo from AMNLAE [Luisa Amanda Espinoza Association of Nicaraguan Women]; Manuel Eugarríos from the Union of Nicaraguan Journalists, UPN; Eligio Palacios and Cristobal Garcia from the CST [Sandinist Central Organization of Workers]; and Domingo Sanchez from the PSN [Nicaraguan Socialist Party].

MINISTRY DENOUNCES PRESENCE OF U.S. WARSHIPS

PA291428 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] The newspaper BARRICADA today reports that the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has denounced the presence of U.S. warships from which planes take off to overfly various parts of the national territory. The ships are staging suspicious maneuvers about 13 miles off the coast of the El Velero Beach Resort and in other nearby areas.

According to the Foreign Ministry, two planes were seen taking off from one of the warships at 1925 yesterday. The planes overflew the "Nicaragua" plant in Puerto Sandino. The planes were seen flying in circles over the area at about 1932. Another ship arrived at 2055, and two other aircraft were seen taking off from it and flying in circles over the U.S. ships.

According to the source, lights have been seen shining on the decks of these ships. The lights are turned off after the planes take off. The source did not specify the number of U.S. warships that were seen maneuvering in our national waters.

TORIELLO SCORES NEW IMPERIALIST MANEUVERS

PA282004 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 28 Nov 83

[Text] Guillermo Toriello, president of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America [TANA] has denounced new U.S. imperialist maneuvers. On behalf of TANA, Toriello charged that there is a Pentagon-CIA conspiracy underway to force Latin American governments to support an aggression against Nicaragua. They are exerting economic pressure on these governments through the IMF to achieve this goal.

Toriello also charged that through Curtin Winsor, its ambassador to Costa Rica, imperialism is trying to undermine the declaration of perpetual neutrality issued by President Monge's government. Regarding this, the TANA president said that Winsor promoted the appointment of Gonzalo Facio as foreign minister, but this was rejected.

ECUADOR'S ROLDOS IN MANAGUA ON OFFICIAL VISIT

Rejects All Intervention

PA251600 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] Managua -- Upon his arrival in this country yesterday, Ecuadorean Vice President Leon Roldos Aguilera rejected any form of direct or indirect intervention against Nicaragua. The Ecuadorean leader told journalists that there must be effective solidarity with the Nicaraguan Government and people and with the Contadora Group's efforts to solve Central America's conflicts peacefully. He also called for genuine respect for Nicaragua and for the other Latin American countries, stressing his total rejection of any intervention against the Sandinist revolution.

Roldos' agenda yesterday included meetings with Foreign Minister Father D'Escoto, Health Minister Lea Guido, Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman, Planning Minister Henry Ruiz, and CDS [Sandinist Defense Committee] Secretary General Commander Leticia Herrera. The Ecuadorean vice president is slated to meet today with the Government Junta members. In the afternoon he will hold a news conference at Sandino Airport.

Ruiz on Visit, Negotiations

PA251610 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] According to Commander of the revolution Henry Ruiz, minister of planning, our country has not yet received a response to its proposal to hold negotiations with the Central American countries on the removal of the military advisers and an end to the arms race in the area, within the Contadora framework.

If they wish to negotiate, we will negotiate, but the Sandinist revolution is not willing to make any concessions, Commander Ruiz warned. He added that the Nicaraguan Government will continue to further all the initiatives needed to prevent an eventual invasion of our country. Commander Ruiz indicated that Nicaragua will do everything in its power to find a peaceful solution to Central America's problems.

Further on, Commander Ruiz described his meeting with Ecuadorean Vice President Leon Roldos as very positive. During the meeting with the revolutionary leader, Roldos was given a detailed explanation about our country's economic planning and various associated problems, about our current difficulties, and about the Sandinist revolution's achievements in the past 4 years.

Commander Ruiz explained to national journalists that Vice President Roldos was interested in projects concerned with the development of the economic infrastructure that the revolution is engaged in. He was thought that if there were no war, there would be greater possibilities for development. Concerning Roldo's visit to Nicaragua, Commander Ruiz stressed that it must be regarded as evidence of Latin American's awareness of and concern about the possibility of an invasion of our country.

Supports Contadora Efforts

PA261552 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Ecuadorean Vice President Leon Roldos asserted that his government supports the contacts being carried out by the Contadora Groups and added that these contacts have prevented U.S. intervention in Central America. Roldos made this statement yesterday at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport when Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga bade him farewell.

They were accompanied by Rodrigo Reyes, minister secretary of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

Regarding the Sandinist government's proposals to the Contadora Group presidents, the Ecuadoran official said he considers them very positive. Roldos said he appreciates the efforts being made by the Nicaraguan Government to institutionalize the electoral process. He added that economic dialogue must be continued with businessmen and other sectors, excluding those who are in the country but advocate aggression. The Ecuadoran vice president does not accept the fact that the United States voices support for the Contadora Group's contacts while it designates funds to support the contras.

DELEGATION TO ATTEND ALFONSIN INAUGURATION

PA291435 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] A delegation of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction will attend Argentine President-elect Dr Raul Alfonsin's inaugural ceremony on 10 December. According to a communique released by the Foreign Ministry, at the Argentine Government's invitation, the Nicaraguan Government has decided to send a high-level delegation to the Argentine President-elect's inauguration.

The official delegation will be led by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta for the Government of National Reconstruction, and by Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman. The two will stay in Argentina 9-11 December.

The revolutionary government feels President-elect Alfonsin's inauguration is an important step toward the consolidation of democracy in that fraternal country.

SANDINIST POLICIES, ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Sandinist Defeat Noted

PA292008 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Nov 83

[By Noe Leiva Bardal]

[Excerpt] According to Edgardo Chamorro Coronel, a leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, the Nicaraguan Army would never dare attack Honduras because it does not have the capability to wage a conventional war.

In an exclusive interview with the newspaper TIEMPO, held in a capital city hotel, Chamorro Coronel added that the FDN would not approve of a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua like the one carried out on the Caribbean island of Grenada. He said there cannot be a war between Honduras and Nicaragua because the Sandinist People's Army "does not have the capability to wage a conventional war."

Chamorro Coronel predicted: "Honduras would destroy us; its powerful Air Force would paralyze our fleet of tanks, our refinery, and the entire Sandinist establishment." He said: "The Sandinists cannot attack Honduras". However, he warned: "The real dangers facing Honduras are the infiltration of a guerrilla war, ideological infiltration; and propaganda, in which they are experts."

Chamorro also said that the FDN would not agree to an attack on Nicaragua like the one carried out by the United States in Grenada because he believes the FDN is capable of destroying the Sandinist government.

In this regard, he rejected a report by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, to the U.S. Congress that describes the anti-Sandinists as a force unable to topple the revolutionary government on its own.

The FDN leader said: "Nicaragua is too great a country to place its destiny in the hands of the CIA analysts." He added that "it is the armed peasant" who is taking part in the war against the government. Chamorro said: "Nicaraguan patriots and people who cannot endure Marxist-Leninist totalitarianism are the ones who are fighting." In his opinion, "the war has already been won, because the conditions for insurrection are being established."

He maintains that the Nicaraguan Government is promoting its own destruction by repressing the church and the press. He emphatically denied that "the FDN is plotting to assassinate Father Miguel Obando y Bravo, the archbishop of Managua, to justify direct U.S. military action, as Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge Martinez claimed last week.

Chamorro said that the FDN "is implementing a large-scale strategy by stepping up its pressure. We hope to liberate the entire northern area and establish a provisional government there." He maintained: "Our forces have been penetrating deep into that area to that end. Our combat task forces have been very successful in northern municipalities and departments." Two attacks carried out in the Pacific area were part of a long-range plan, according to Chamorro.

Regarding the FDN rejection of an intervention in Nicaragua like the one carried out on Grenada on 25 October, Chamorro stated: We, the Nicaraguans, have to do it (topple the junta), "although he did not dismiss the possibility that "as a last resort, multinational forces such as the CONDECA [Central American Defense Council] or the OAS might give logistical support to prevent chaos, suffering by the Nicaraguan people, and the destruction of the infrastructure."

He did concede one advantage to a victory achieved through a large-scale attack involving non-Nicaraguan troops: "This would lead to a balanced participation of all (anti-Sandinist) groups within the new government." However, he said: "We have not requested this (invasion)." He added: "It is important for us anti-Sandinist fighters to win the war by ourselves, but it would not be shameful to request the intervention of other forces to prevent chaos."

According to Chamorro Coronel, the Nicaraguan Government "is trapped in a dead-end. It must either seek a negotiated solution through the Contadora Group or fall."

ARDE Reports Sandinist Desertion

PA291529 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Communique issued by Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command in the "Nicaraguan mountains" on 28 November 1983]

[Excerpt] The ARDE Armed Forces General Command reports to the people of Nicaragua and the world:

1. At 1900 on 16 [as heard] November, 10 soldiers of the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] joined our forces. The 10 soldiers of the Managua regime joined the Gaspar Garcia Laviana Column in the TPH-1 zone of the Nueva Guinea region.

2. The names of the soldiers are: Horacio Martinez Rocha, Hermenegildo Rios Silva, Ramon Lopez Centeno, Julio Perez Brenes, Lucas Jarquin Brenes, Silvio Jarquin Amador, Miguel Angel Calero, Leoncio Marquez Martinez, Antonio Lira Torres, and [name indistinct].

3. All the EPS soldiers said they were joining the ARDE forces because they did not want to continue being commanded by foreigners. They said that EPS is full of Cubans and interventionist internationalists. They said they are convinced that Commander Pastora's struggle for the democratic recovery of our revolution is just and is in the national interests of our country.

Sandinist Tanks Destroyed

PA260422 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0150 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- A communique issued here today said that anti-Sandinist saboteurs based in Honduras have destroyed three battle tanks of the Nicaraguan Government, killing or wounding 176 soldiers during an incursion into Nicaragua. It stated that a demolition team of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), an insurgent organization backed by the United States and operating from bases established in Honduras in order to overthrow Managua's Sandinist government, carried out the attack in Chinandega in eastern Nicaragua last week.

The saboteurs entered a weapons warehouse where the equipment of Nicaraguan forces stationed in the country's east was being kept, and dynamited the three tanks. According to the communique, the FDN members killed 100 soldiers and wounded 68 members of the contingent that was protecting the base, which tried to repel the insurgent attack. The Sandinist government did not mention this attack, but the FDN communique stated that the Nicaraguan leaders do not want to give any publicity to the losses they are sustaining at the hands of the rebels.

The communique also said that the FDN forces are fighting Sandinist troops in Jinotega, in northern Nicaragua, and that they killed one soldier and wounded four during a brief confrontation. The communique added that it is not true that its forces ambushed and killed members of the Sandinist militia in Estancia, in the northern province of Nueva Segovia. The Sandinists had reported that a group of militiamen was recently killed by FDN "counterrevolutionary" forces. However, the FDN communique reported that the militiamen died when they activated an antipersonal mine installed by the Sandinists themselves. It concluded by noting that the Sandinists are using the deaths for propaganda purposes.

UNOMASUNO CORRESPONDENT INTERVIEWS EDEN PASTORA

PA252008 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 21 Nov 83 p 1, 14

[By correspondent Beatriz Johnston]

[Excerpts] Los Angeles, 20 Nov -- In the case of a foreign intervention in Nicaragua, "I would join my people" in resisting the invasion, Eden Pastora, one of the principal leaders of the Nicaraguan counterrevolution, told UNOMASUNO. In an interview during his tour of the United States, undertaken to raise funds for his troops, which need only "two things -- boots and weapons," Pastora also pointed out that "I have lost my voice trying to explain my anti-imperialist and anti-interventionist position. I criticize U.S. intervention in Vietnam, but I also criticize Cuban intervention in Grenada."

"Why, then, does the press, and UNOMASUNO in particular, describe me as a counterrevolutionary ally of Reagan, spokesman of imperialism, and so forth?" he asked.

He explained, however, that his "union with the people" -- in the event of an invasion of Nicaragua -- does not mean union with the Sandinist national leadership, which he described as "Managua's totalitarianism" and does not mean union with "Somozist right-ists," as he terms the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) fighting the government from bases located in Honduras, financed by the Reagan administration. While the U.S. Congress [as published] last Friday approved a \$24-million fund for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, Marines and Honduran troops engaged in invasion maneuvers at Puerto Castilla, and Sandinist Commander Victor Tirado Lopez accused Ronald Reagan of trying to reactivate CONDECA [Central American Defense Council], Pastora warned the U.S. people in San Francisco that "an invasion could have results contrary to those expected. It would force the Nicaraguan people to unite in a mistaken cause." He added that "the Nicaraguan people are courageous and would fiercely defend their homeland.

During his tour of the United States Pastora refused to reveal the sources of his funds, but he did say in Washington that he could have indirectly received support the CIA. However, he explained, "I would take money from anyone as long as there are no conditions attached."

Pastora showed optimism during the interview. He said: "I am closer to my goal now than I was 6 months ago." He consolidated ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance], bringing under its leadership MISURASATA [Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity], the Nicaraguan Democratic Union [MDN] of Alfonso Robelo, and the Sandino Revolutionary Front (FRS).

In April of this year, Pastora criticized the Sandinist government, demanding that it restore democracy and freedom of the press in Nicaragua and that the Cubans leave the country. In Los Angeles he said that "we favor the national literacy campaign, the nationalization of our natural resources, the banks, the ill-gotten Somozist gains, and a nonaligned foreign policy. "We seek freedom of political activities, so that whoever criticizes the errors of the national leadership will not be accused of being a counter-revolutionary and be thrown to the mobs, who have no political direction. We want laws, since there is no law in Nicaragua. We are being ruled by decree; 7,000 decrees have already been issued in Nicaragua." He was asked if, should elections be held in Nicaragua in 1985, he would run for some post. He replied: "The last elections in Nicaragua took place in 1972 or 1973, and before those there were others. If in 1985 we have elections similar to those during the Somozist times, then we will continue fighting. I do not fight for positions; I already held several. Do you actually believe I am fighting for a position?"

[UNOMASUNO] That is true.

[Pastora] Let me enumerate the positions I have held: brigade commander, guerrilla commander, vice minister of defense, commander of the Ezequiel Brigade, 10th member of the national leadership, and although I was never appointed, the most popular and beloved commander of the Nicaraguan people -- and I continue to be so.

[UNOMASUNO] You have not yet answered our question. Will you or will you not run in 1985?

[Pastora] I do not fight for positions.

[UNOMASUNO] But you fight for democracy. If elections are held in Nicaragua in 1985, will you integrate yourself into society?

[Pastora] That is correct.

'OUR AMERICA' ON U.S. 'ADVENTURIST' C.A. POLICY

PA290451 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 23 Nov 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Government daily takes new steps in its adventurist and warmongering policy toward Central America. Early in his mandate -- in 1980 -- President Reagan disguised his economic and political aggression against the peoples of the region under a cloak of alleged legality. Today, however, he does not bother to use his old disguises, but openly declares his intention of forcefully imposing his strategic objectives.

There are many U.S. spokesmen who have not concealed Washington's intentions of attacking the new Nicaragua. Ambassadors and ministers have used stinging and daring words when referring to the Central American situation. Recently, Fred Ikle, under secretary of defense for policy, said in San Salvador that if the Salvadoran Army situation continues to deteriorate, the U.S. Government would be forced to do something about it. His statements were very clear. The White House has decided to intervene in El Salvador if the Salvadoran Army continues to suffer defeats at the hands of the FMLN's victorious guerrilla columns. Similar statements were made on several occasions by Paul Gorman, commander of the U.S. Southern Command, who is one of the leaders in the Pentagon and CIA plans to take over Central America.

Curtin Windsor, the U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica, recently used cynical words when speaking about intervention, and, in a shameless manner, ignored the neutrality proclaimed by the San Jose government. Central America, said Windsor, cannot fall into the hands of the enemies of democracy, and the United States will do everything to prevent that from happening.

All these U.S. machinations in Central America became more prominent after the Yankee invasion of Grenada. With bravado, following the Pyrrhic victory in that tiny eastern Caribbean island, the U.S. Government is preparing to lash out in Central America, be it in El Salvador or Nicaragua. In truth, everything points in that direction. However, the United States will have to pay a very high price if it attacks Nicaragua or El Salvador. The Nicaraguan and Salvadoran patriots have ample fighting experience. If the United States engages in such a warmongering adventure in Central America, the Yankee casualties would number in the tens of thousands as was the case in Vietnam only a few years ago.

COMMENTS ON MCINTYRE'S REJECTION OF POST

FL291840 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1011 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Alister McIntyre, a high United Nations official, rejected the presidency of the provisional government of Grenada because of the evident U.S. intention of maintaining a military presence in Grenada. A few weeks ago, newspaper sources attributed McIntyre's refusal to reasons of health. That story has begun to be modified as more information about the threat to Grenada becomes known, after the invasion by the United States with the assistance of a few English-speaking Caribbean states. Well-informed press sources indicate that McIntyre placed several conditions on his acceptance of the post as chief of the provisional executive council of Grenada; one of these conditions was the evacuation of the invading forces that now occupy that Caribbean island.

AMBASSADOR RENE ANILLO MEETS WITH GROMYKO

FL292014 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1903 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko today received Cuban Ambassador to the Soviet Union Rene Anillo Capote on the occasion of Anillo's upcoming return to Cuba. During the cordial and friendly meeting, reciprocal satisfaction was expressed about the successful developments in several areas of the fraternal Soviet-Cuban relations.

During the exchange of opinions on the international situation, the importance of Secretary General of the Soviet Communist Party Yuriy Andropov's declaration, which includes a realistic program of struggle against the nuclear threat, was emphasized. Rene Anillo Capote pointed out that the measures which the Soviet Union has been obliged to take in response to the current militaristic policy of Washington have the support of the people and Government of Cuba.

SOCIALIST DEFENSE MINISTRY UNIONS MEETING ENDS

FL300148 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The first meeting for the Exchange of Experience of the Defense Unions of the Socialist Countries concluded today with an address by Division General Sixto Batista Santana, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the FAR's Central Political Directorate.

RODRIGUEZ COMMEMORATES YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY

FL291319 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the party Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, presided over the ceremony held at the FAR's Universal Hall in this capital, commemorating the 40th anniversary of Yugoslavia's National Day. Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo; Jose Ramon Fernandez, party Central Committee member and minister of education; and Rene Rodriguez Cruz, president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples, were also present.

Yugoslav Ambassador to Cuba Ronald Strelec and Jorge Lezcano, member of the Party Central Committee and vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, spoke at the meeting. The Yugoslav diplomat reviewed his people's struggle to organize Yugoslavia and stated that more than 1,700,000 had died in the fighting, of which more than 80 percent were under 27 years of age. He expressed great satisfaction at the fruitful and friendly development of Yugoslav-Cuban relations. In his address, Jorge Lezcano stressed the fact that, after the victory over fascism, the Yugoslav people under the direction of Josef Broz Tito went to work and advanced along the path of socialism in the building of a prosperous nation.

24TH CEMA HEALTH MINISTERS CONFERENCE MEETS 1-5 DEC

FL291646 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpts] From 1 to 5 December, the 24th CEMA conference of public health ministers from socialist countries will be held at the Palace of Conventions, Havana City. This event will demonstrate that public health in socialist countries, because of its success, enjoys increasingly greater international acceptance, has great prospects, and is heading toward integration, specialization, and an increase in world cooperation.

Attending this event will be representatives of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, USSR, Cuba, and numerous observers. Yesterday, the health ministers of Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Mozambique arrived in Cuba.

R. CASTRO MARKS 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MILITARY LAW

PL261922 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Nov 83

[Text] We will now read the message of congratulations from the FAR minister on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the promulgation of the obligatory military service law and the creation of the military committees:

To the chiefs, officers, sub-officers, sergeants, soldiers, and civilian workers of the military committees and municipal military directorates.

Today, 26 November 1983, marks the 20th anniversary of the promulgation of the obligatory military service law and the creation of the military committee, which initiated an important stage in the process of building the military and defensive capability of our country.

During these years, hundreds of thousands of young people have passed through the ranks of our Revolutionary Armed Forces. Thousands of reservists and members of the Territorial Troops Militia have received their military training through active military service.

Tens of thousands of men have given military aid to other peoples.

The men and women who unselfishly work every day on the military committees and in the municipal military directorates have played an important role in these achievements in defense of the revolution.

We are aware of the limitations that persist in their work and also of their successes.

The advances achieved in recent times are significant.

On the occasion of this 20th anniversary, I congratulate you and I wish you new and greater successes in the completion of missions entrusted to you by the party, the government, and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Fraternally, Army General Raul Castro Ruz.

BARBADOSPRIME MINISTER ADAMS SCORES GUYANA'S BURNHAM

FL291918 Bridgetown CANA in English 1843 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, Nov 29 (CANA) -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams, in a stinging attack on Guyanese head of government Forbes Burnham, has accused him of election-rigging and imposing himself on the people through the military. Adams' comments, made in India and broadcast here, were apparently triggered by President Burnham's persistent criticism of last month's U.S.-led military intervention in Grenada, which was backed by Barbados and six other Caribbean countries.

In a report on the state-run Radio Barbados from New Delhi, India, where both Caribbean heads of government were attending a Commonwealth summit, Adams described Burnham as a "figure of fun" in the West Indies, where his speeches are regarded as "light relief" in otherwise serious fora. "He is widely regarded in the West Indies as a person who, now almost alone in the Commonwealth, totally manipulates elections and is maintained in power by the weight of security forces recruited largely on ethnic grounds. His only real base of support in Guyana is that the alternative to him is even more undesirable," Adams told the press.

Mr Adams said: "Mr Burnham is regarded in the Caribbean not only as a cross that Guyana has to bear, but a cross that many of us have to bear." Adams' comments were aimed at countering Burnham's strong criticism of the intervention at news conferences and other public fora during the weeklong conference. The Barbados Prime Minister said it was unfortunate that in such august gatherings Burnham "is continually exposed to an audience that does not have to deal with him every day and therefore take him seriously. Most of us are too polite to hold a press conference in India and tell Indian journalists that in the West Indies Mr Burnham is a figure of fun and his speeches are entertained as light relief..." Adams said.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS -- The Ambassador of Japan, Mr Masanao Nishikata, last week presented his letters of credence to Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward at Government House. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 21 Nov 83 p 2 FL]

GRENADAADVISORY COUNCIL TO HOLD FIRST FORMAL MEETING

FL292138 Bridgetown CANA in English 2025 GMT 29 Nov 83

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Nov 29, CANA -- Grenada's new caretaker government, installed two weeks ago by Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, will hold its first official meeting on Thursday, Acting Chairman Nicholas Braithwaite said today.

"We have been meeting informally for some time now but we are planning to meet on Thursday for the first time on a formal basis," Braithwaite told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY. He said the 14-day-old "Advisory Council" had delayed the meeting pending the arrival of Alistair McIntyre to head the administration. But since he is not coming, "we are going ahead with the meeting," Braithwaite said. McIntyre had been scheduled to arrive last Sunday from Geneva but because of illness, he is unable to head the council, which will run Grenada pending general elections next year.

The caretaker government was set up by the governor-general in an effort to get the machinery of government functioning following the October 25 U.S.-led invasion to topple the military junta of General Hudson Austin, which had seized power in a bloody coup. The military leaders six days earlier had killed Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, three cabinet ministers, and several other persons during a coup.

Braithwaite disclosed that Dr Allan Kirton, nominated to have responsibility for civil service and secretariat affairs, was due on Thursday from Jamaica to take up his job with the government. Kirton is permanent secretary to Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga. Braithwaite said the interim government would issue a statement soon after Thursday's first meeting on the matters discussed and decisions taken.

JAMAICA

REPORTAGE ON PREPARATIONS FOR EARLY ELECTIONS

JLP Reshuffles, Nominates Candidates

FL291751 Bridgetown CANA in English 1729 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 29 (CANA) -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) today named its 60 candidates for the planned general elections on December 15. Absent from the list are 18 members of the last Parliament, including Speaker Talkbert Forrest, Deputy Arthur Williams, and the former minister of state in the prime minister's office, Basil Buck.

The election is being boycotted by the main opposition Peoples National Party (PNP), which was the only other party represented in the last Parliament. Most of the JLP candidates are expected to be elected unopposed, paving the way for a JLP return to government. The JLP has also dropped 72-year-old Allan Issacs, a former PNP minister who shifted to the JLP in the 1980 elections. The PNP is refusing to take part in the elections because planned electoral reforms, including an updated voters list, had not been fully implemented.

The JLP's husband and wife parliamentary team of Glen and Joan Webley is being broken up, with Glen Webley, who in 1980 won the JLP East Kingston constituency for the first time, not on the list. He is replaced by Tourism Minister Anthony Abrahams, one of two ministers shifting constituencies. Abrahams is moving from a constituency in Portland, eastern Jamaica. His cabinet colleague, National Security and Justice Minister Winston Spaulding, moves from St James in the northwest to the southeast St Andrew, in the Kingston/St Andrew urban area.

Two cabinet members, who previously sat in the Senate, are also among the JLP's candidates: Construction Minister Bruce Golding and Junior Industry and Commerce Minister Anthony Johnson. Golding, the JLP's general secretary, is running in south central St Catherine, one of the three changes the party has made in that parish where it held the seven constituencies. Johnson is also running in St Catherine, as is Golding's brother, Anthony Golding.

Seaga: PNP Afraid of Losing

FL292306 Bridgetown CANA in English 2204 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 29, CANA -- Prime Minister Edward Seaga, virtually assured of a further term in office, said today the main opposition People's National Party (PNP) was boycotting planned elections on December 15 because it was afraid of losing to his Jamaica Labour Party (JLP). "The records must show that the PNP were not ready and despite the smokescreen, in plain language what they were afraid of was a beating," Seaga told supporters after filing nomination papers in the West Kingston constituency he has represented for more than 20 years. Seaga called elections two years early last Friday, only two days after a devaluation of the Jamaica dollar under a standby credit arrangement with the International Monetary Fund.

The PNP said it would boycott the poll because promised electoral reforms, including an updated voters list and new procedures to minimise fraud, had not been fully implemented. Today, no more than a dozen candidates from minor parties opposing the JLP were expected to be nominated, ensuring a JLP win and paving the way for a probable one-party House of Representatives. Final nomination details for the 60-seat House were expected to be known later today. The candidates were likely to include a few of the Christian Conscience Movement and the hitherto unheard of Republican Party. In the last Parliament the JLP held 51 seats to the PNP's nine.

Seaga, charging that the present PNP was the weakest Jamaican parliamentary opposition ever, told his supporters that his government would create mechanisms in which "people-based organisations and the people will be provided with the type of representation which the PNP would never be capable of." He did not explain what these mechanisms were.

PNP leader Michael Manley, who accused Seaga of raping democracy by disenfranchising voters and opening the opportunity for massive fraud by holding an election on a three-year old voters list, told reporters last night that even outside of Parliament his party would continue its role as opposition and that the PNP's voice would be heard on every issue.

Seaga, deriding the PNP boycott, said that if there was ever a time for a boycott of an election it was in 1976, when they took place during a state of emergency, with three of his party's candidates and "hundreds of supporters made to feel that they would be locked up too." Yet to preserve the democratic process, Seaga said, his party participated and got the worst drubbing in its history. Manley has, however, denied that the 1976 state of emergency impeded the JLP, and pointed out last night that at the time a PNP candidate was also detained and that both parties were able to hold their meetings and campaign in an atmosphere of far less violence than when the emergency was declared.

Seaga's Return to Office Assured

FL292346 Bridgetown CANA in English 2338 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 29, CANA -- Edward Seaga's Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) was returned to office today when at least 46 of its candidates for the planned general elections on December 15 were nominated unopposed. Up to late afternoon, election officials said that of the 51 constituencies from which reports were received, the JLP had been opposed in only five. The main opposition People's National Party (PNP) is boycotting the poll for the 60-seat House of Representatives because it said that promised electoral reform, including an updated voters list, had not been fully implemented.

BRIEFS

AIRCRAFT CONVENTION ACT APPROVED -- The House of Representatives on Tuesday approved a bill entitled the Aircraft Tokyo, Hague, and Montreal Convention Act aimed at countering unlawful activities affecting safety, by giving legal effect in Jamaica to the provisions of various international conventions. Violation of the act draws a maximum penalty of life imprisonment, as well as extradition where the offense is contrary to the law of any other country which is party to the convention. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Nov 83 p 10 FL]

ST LUCIAASSEMBLY APPROVES U.S. INVASION OF GRENADA

FL291941 Bridgetown CANA in English 1830 GMT 29 Nov 83

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Nov 29 (CANA) -- The St Lucia House of Assembly has passed a resolution in support of the U.S.-led military intervention in Grenada last month and the St Lucia Government's decision to participate in the operation. The lone parliamentary voting against the resolution was opposition MP Jon Odium of the left-wing Progressive Labour Party (PLP). Odium attacked the United States for its role in the intervention, saying that Grenadians should have been allowed to solve what he called "a minor domestic problem."

The military action in Grenada followed two weeks of political upheaval, culminating on October 19 with the overthrow and assassination of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop by the Armed Forces. Three ministers and several others were also killed in the coup.

The two MP's of the main opposition St Lucia Labour Party (SLP) teamed up with parliamentarians of governing United Workers Party (UWP) to support the passage of the resolution, tabled by Acting Prime Minister George Mallet in the absence of Prime Minister John Compton, who is attending the Commonwealth summit in New Delhi. Opposition Leader Neville Cenac said the SLP would never subscribe to communism or armed revolution. "The only instance when the use of the gun is necessary is when people are subjugated by tyranny and despotism, as was the case in Grenada under the military junta led by General Hudson Austin," he said. Barbados, Jamaica, and the seven-nation Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), including St Lucia, provided troops for the Grenada operation. Government parliamentarians all spoke in favour of the motion.

Minister of State in the Ministry of Education Louis George called for a review of Guyana's relationship in the Caribbean Community (Caricom) based on its condemnatory stand on the Grenada issue. "As a member of Caricom, Guyana ought to have abstained from voting at the UN, but had gone as far as proposing the resolution condemning the intervention," he said.

Junior Minister of Health Clarence Rambally called on Caribbean leaders to put pressure on their Caribbean colleagues when they create situations which could lead to armed overthrows. He said that had Caribbean leaders applied pressure on the Eric Gairy administration when it was clear that he was guilty of "certain atrocities," then the 1979 Grenada revolution might not have been necessary.

Rambally called for pressure to be put on the Guyana Government before, he said, people there are forced to resort to the gun. Some regional governments have accused the Forbes Burnham government of rigging elections -- a charge they also levelled at Gairy. Rambally said the United States was to blame for allowing the "Communist threat" to extend so far into the Caribbean. In the past, he said, there had been calls from governments in the region for security and other forms of assistance from the U.S. which went unheeded.

"For too long the U.S. has failed to recognise the fact that when they sneeze, we catch a cold. There was no reason for communism to have spread this far into the region. "Had the U.S. come to the rescue of the islands much earlier, then there would have been no need for military intervention at this time," he added.

Acting Prime Minister Mallet criticised countries which had condemned the invasion. He said most of them had never heard of Grenada or even the Caribbean, and clearly did not understand the problems of the region. "If the people of Grenada are not unhappy with the action taken on their behalf, then no one should question the legality of the action," he said. Grenadians, generally, have welcomed the intervention. "Any matter related to the sovereignty of a country should be reflected by the wishes of its people and any country opposing these wishes must be seen to be interfering in the internal affairs of that country," the acting prime minister added. He said that St Lucia was concerned that the huge quantities of arms the U.S. Army found in Grenada would have been used to spread communism to the neighbouring islands. "The OECS therefore had no choice but to immediately remove this threat."

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BUSINESS LEADER WEIGHS CURRENCY DEVALUATION

FL252245 Bridgetown CANA in English 2200 GMT 25 Nov 83

[By Rudi Williams]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Nov 25, CANA -- Any move by Trinidad and Tobago to devalue its currency to keep exports competitively priced in view of this week's Jamaica-U.S. dollar re-alignment will have positive and negative effects on this twin-island state's overseas sales, a business leader, John Martin, said today. Most of this country's exports are oil and oil products sold in U.S. dollars, said Martin, who is head of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce. "With Barbados and Jamaica devaluing, they stand to benefit from the increased flow of tourist revenue, but Trinidad and Tobago would have to weigh the prospect of the cost of maintaining its sales of manufactured goods to Caricom (the Caribbean Community) against that of what it would lose on the sale of oil products by devaluing," Martin added.

Jamaica's Prime Minister and Finance Minister Edward Seaga last Wednesday announced a devaluation of the Jamaica dollar, moving the rate of exchange between the Jamaica and U.S. dollar from J1.78 dollars U.S. one dollar, to J3.15 dollars U.S. one dollar. "We have to see the devaluation from the viewpoint of items that are of similar price," Martin said. "If you look at stoves, for example -- which could be considered as being produced at similar prices in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago -- then with the devaluation of Jamaica's dollar our exported stoves to Jamaica would be too high (priced) to be competitive. Jamaican stoves would also be much cheaper on our market and they can flood our market."

Martin said like Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago it was possible that Caricom countries might devalue to keep exports competitive. "Trinidad and Tobago, however, has a peculiar situation in that unlike Barbados and Jamaica most of its products are oil and oil products sold in U.S. dollars," he added. Martin said that announcing its devaluation on the eve of a big conference and exposition in Miami, attracting delegates from the Caribbean and Central America, Jamaica, therefore, goes to Miami with the edge on other Caricom manufacturers as its goods can be sold cheaper."

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES COUP ATTEMPT FOILED

FL291603 Bridgetown CANA in English 1555 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Amsterdam, Nov 29, CANA-REUTER -- The left-wing Government of Suriname announced today it had foiled a coup attempt, the Dutch news agency ANP reported. It quoted its correspondent in Paramaribo, Suriname's capital, as saying the government had called a press conference about the attempt, but gave no details.

10 Arrested

LD291741 Hilversum Domestic Service in Dutch 1700 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Text] Suriname -- At a press conference in Paramaribo the Suriname military authorities have announced that they have prevented an attempted coup d'etat.

According to Sergenat-Major Zeeuw, the plot was to have led to an invasion by mercenaries. He stated that ex-President Chin-A-Sen's Liberation Council is using persons in Suriname in order to engage in activities [as heard]. According to Sergenat-Major Zeeuw, some 10 persons have been arrested. The press were shown two suspects who made a brief statement.

Leaders Identified

FL291857 Bridgetown CANA in English 1850 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Amsterdam, Nov 29 (CANA-REUTER) -- The left-wing Government of Suriname said today it had foiled a coup attempt which included a planned invasion by mercenaries.

Military authorities in the former Dutch colony said they had arrested about a dozen people, including an Indian and a businessman, who had intended to cause chaos and provide an excuse for the invasion, the Dutch news agency ANP reported.

A military spokesman said a Liberation Council led by former President Henk Chin-A-Sen, now in exile in the Netherlands, lay behind the plot, the ANP correspondent in the Suriname capital, Paramaribo, reported.

Sergeant-Major Zeeuw, deputy commander of the Suriname's military police, presented two of those arrested to a brief press conference in Paramaribo. One, said to be the leader of the plot, was identified as 24-year-old Oemperkash Gobardhan, an Indian, and the other simply as Linfeld. A businessman Austen was also among those arrested, Zeeuw said.

Zeeuw told the press conference that the plotters were following a plan by the Liberation Council to cause disruption. The Council was set up by Chin-A-Sen and other exiled opponents of Bouterse in the Netherlands in January.

The plotters first distributed pamphlets from the Council to sow unrest, Seeuw said. Then, during the past five years, they started a number of fires, including blazes at the Suriname Radio Foundation and the Ministry of Labour. This stage was due to be followed by armed attacks and assassinations, Zeeuw continued. It was not immediately clear at what point the mercenary invasion was due to take place or who was involved.

Gobardhan told the press conference he had been contacted and recruited by a brother living in the Netherlands. Smoking a cigarette and appearing nervous, he said he had lit three fires, at the radio, a school, and the Labour Ministry. "I had to light fires and sow unrest... I got a thousand guilders (300 dollars) to cover costs," ANP quoted him as saying. Fires at these locations had been reported recently. Gobardhan also said he received a list of people to kill but did not say who was on it.

Havana Reports Coup Attempt

FL300100 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 000 GMT 30 Nov 83

[Text] Surinamese authorities today said that they had frustrated a coup attempt 1 week after the detention in Paramaribo of five military men opposed to the government of Lieutenant Colonel Deysi Bouterse. It is not known if both events are related because the government reserved details of the recent events for a press conference to be held in Suriname within the next few hours.

According to the official announcement, today's abortive coup was to have led to an invasion of the country by mercenaries.

Suriname, located between the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the colony of French Guiana in South America, has been governed since 1980 by Lt Col Deysi Bouterse, who overthrew Henck Arron, who had been prime minister of the country since it became independent in 1975.

'FEAR' STILL 'CLOUDS' HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

FL291357 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Nov 83

[Excerpt] A member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights says a climate of fear still clouds the human rights picture in the former Dutch colony of Suriname.

The human rights group sent a delegation to Suriname in June to investigate charges that opposition leaders there were executed last December. The delegation concluded that high officials of the Surinamese Military Government were responsible for the arrest, torture, and execution of the leaders.

A member of that delegation says today there have been no recent violations of the right to life and physical security in Suriname, as far as his organization knows. However, he said the country may still be dominated by a climate of fear.